Thursday, December 22, 1994



ar Shadi (above) spends two weeks each year setting Christmas display (top) on Arlington Blvd.

# Christmas wonderland

EL CERRITO — The three wise

EL CERRITO — The three wise men are lined up on horseback, the miniature chickens are heading out the gate and the tiny town of Bethlehem is perched high on the hill for all to see.

After 45 years, children young and old are still flocking to see the Christmas display painstakingly created by Sundar Shadi each year in his front yard.

At 94 years old Shadi's effort is no small feat. It takes two weeks, with the help of volunteers from the El Cerrito Fire Department and El Cerrito High School students, to set up the animals, buildings, figures and lights that make up the winter wonderland.

And it took more than three de-cades to make and collect all of the elements that make up the elaborate

exhibition.

"The idea came from my wife. We have three daughters and so I would put three trees outside at Christmas and light them. My wife said if we had a Bethlehem star it would look nice. She was such an inspiration. The next year I added a few houses and kept adding every year," said Shadi, sitting in his house reflecting on the years of work.

"It's a lot of work, especially on

from throughout the East Bay.

"I can't tell, it all depends on my health. It's getting tougher every year. I have to arrange everything in such a way that it looks natural. I've tried to so something for the pleasure of the community," Shadi said.

And that good will doesn't end with Christmas, says Shadi as he proudly displays hand made turkey figures used for a Thanksgiving display and three foot high deer he made from paper mache that grace the garden flowers at spring time.

But with all the effort (and

But with all the effort (and money spent on materials and electricity), the surrounding community has yet to formally recognize Shadi's determination.

According to Shadi, there's never been a dinner, proclamation or official recognition in his honor. Though the fact seems to sadden him a bit, he doesn't let it get him down; the joy jumps into his eyes when told how many generations love and appreciate his endeavors.

# Kensington fire contract pending

By Dawn Frasieur

The Kensington Fire District and the city of El Cerrito may have a rather complicated fire service relationship in the next few months, but it should allow for a permanent contract between the two jurisdictions by mid-spring. In the meantime, Kensington firefighters will get what they've been asking for all along — employment with Contra Costa County.

During the last couple of years, KFD board members have struggled over the future of Kensington's fire services. Continuing state revenue takeaways have made independent service more and more difficult. Contracting out services to either Berkeley or El Cerrito was studied by the board and debated by the community. The firefighters union pushed for consolidation of services with the county; a number of community members feel consolidation might be the way of the future but that the timing isn't right for now.

After deciding to contract out services to El Cerrito, the board has been busy in recent weeks working out all the details. The future em-

has been a major point for discussion. One possibility was that the Kensington employees would be offered employment in the El Cerrito Fire Department.

Except for the Kensington batallion chief, however, all the employees have expressed a preference to work for the county. The Contra Costa County Fire Protection District tentatively offered to accept a transfer of employees; the board of supervisors was to consider that offer at its meeting Tuesday.

sider that offer at its meeting Tuesday."

"The fire fighters have all along wanted to stay in the county," said KFD board president Ron Egherman. "They wanted to stay within their union, their retirement system, to retain all the benefits they had as a result of being employees in Kensington."

The board and community, however, was not ready to consolidate services. Meet and confer meetings began when the board decided to contract with El Cerrito. During that period, said Egherman, the firefighters looked for alternative ways to stay with the county.

# Library proposal on its way to council

By Tara Suan

ALBANY — Edging closer to a compromise between community members who want greater accessibility to the Albany library and staff who are uneasy over operating changes, the Albany Library Board will ask for City Council approval of the experimental plan in January.

If approved, the plan calls for supplemental library services that will augment the existing 33 hours of operation, including the addition of two circulation only hours on Monday and Tuesday.

The council will also be asked to approve a group of bylaws which will govern the conduct and breadth of the Board's jurisdiction.

During the hours of 11 a.m. and 1 p.m on those days, the library will open for check-in and checkout of materials only. Librarians and researchers will not be available to assist patrons.

The plan drew early criticism ALBANY — Edging closer to a

from staff librarians, who are concerned the circulation-only hours would place clerks in a position where they will have to field research questions when they are not adequately trained to do so.

In addition, staff feared the circulation only hours were the first sign of employee downsizing since the library would employ only clerks and desk assistants during those times.

County administrators, who run the Albany library branch, held a meet and confer session with staff union representatives Linda Wood, Alameda County Librarian, said.

Councilmember Robert Good, who is also a Library Board commissioner, said staff will be trained to compensate for the supplemental operating hours.

"It's the general reaction to any type of change," said Good. "From my standpoint, and from what I've heard other people say, it would be

See LIBRARY, page 16

# mbitious plan for bikers

A newly formed up hopes to sepa-m their automo-te day — Bike to an effort to popu-

een Party-backed 1-motorized modes of on in city government. Iown we don't really pportunity to expand e or the bus system, e certainly things we hake it more bicycle-aid Mast last week at Community Center. ith council members, missioners, including land of the Traffic and

nission, mothers and e Albany area wasted in organizing plans to a state of the organizing plans to a state of the organizing plans to the state of the organizers of the event the a Bicycle Coalition,

solicit veteran and greenhorn bi-cycle riders for pledges that they will ride to work or school on May 4 to show their support for bicy-

clists.

"The main thing we want to do "The main thing we want to do is identify those people with an interest in bicycling. There have to be at least five hundred cyclists in Albany and this will help us find them," said Mast.

'What I would like is to be able to let my children ride their bicycles to school safely again.'

But despite the enthusiasm, the advisory committee won't be able to draw on city staff for support.
On Dec. 5, the City Council

signaled their support for cyclists

advocacy groups by endorsing Mast's proposal for a Bike Albany day on May 4.

However, after some discussion, the council decided not to commit city resources to the project nor did they approve Mast's recommendation the city form a Bicycle Advisory Commission to give voice to some non-motorized transportation interests.

Council members said they

Council members said they could not spare city manpower for the proposal, and suggested Mast organize an advocacy group from the community at large.

The citizens of Albany join other Bay Area cities in championing the virtues of non-motorized transportation. The City Councils of Berkeley and Oakland have lent moral and financial assistance to bicycle advisory groups in their jurisdictions.

The Albany group also decided on a course of long-term action for advocating bicycle interests in city circles.

Susie Sanderson, an Albany

See BIKERS, page 16

Let there be lights



Albany resident Ron Brill, with son Jake and their dog Libby worked to light up their neigh-borhood near Dartmouth and Kains streets with Christmas cheer this year.

# Remembering when

By William Paul

# Soviet farmers'adventures in America

The following is the first of

The following is the first of three parts.

From the minute we took those damn Russians off the plane in San Francisco to a few minutes before we put them back on a plane in Los Angeles, four days later, they were a headache. I had enjoyed every minute of it.

Those particular Russians

minute of it.

Those particular Russians made up the Soviet Farm
Delegation — a group of about a dozen so-called farmers who came over in the summer of 1955 to learn from seeing how American farmers raised so much more food and fiber than they could they could.

They toured the huge grain belt of the Midwest and a little of the South, and now they were about to visit California, home of Disneyland, Hollywood, and all those other places where things are accomplished by

white things are accomplished by using mirrors.

My (at that time) boss and a retired, former dean of agriculture had spent many hours working out an itinerary that would embrace as many places and things they felt might be of interest and benefit to Russian agriculture as possible. They had it planned almost to the hour for almost four days, and had included meals and other forms of hospitality to add enjoyment to the trip. They had done a beautiful job. Of planning, that is.

My boss and the former dean

ming, that is.

My boss and the former dean would ride in the chartered bus; I would drive a station wagon loaded with some sound equipment, some refreshments for members of the press, the boss' son (who was a real help on the job), and stay a few jumps ahead of the bus to get things set up at each stop before the bus arrived. Did you ever try to stay ahead of a Greyhound bus that was said to be "governed" at 65 mph? Forget it. Don't even try.

Modern miracle

spilled milk Paul Schure

**Growing debate** 

Letters to the Editor

Editor:
I think I witnessed a modern medical miracle in your paper. That is, that a brain-dead person can actually write and mail a letter.
I'm speaking of the letter from Elise Morgan,

It is speaking of the letter from Elise Morgan, who states that pro-casino brochures looked like "Nazi propaganda."

Give me a break! She must have bought one of those \$19.95 Ronco imagination stretchers advertised on TV.

Measure F passed. Welcome to the '90s. Let the card room proceed and stop crying over spilled milk.

Editor:
The letter of Robert Outis (Dec. 15) continues a hopefully growing community debate on two important issues: nastiness and mythology in Albany politics.

1) Mythology
(a) Many letters to The Journal in the past few years have developed a theme that money can literally buy an election in Albany. Bob Outis writes:

"After all, our history, both distant and recent, is riddled with examples of sales to high bidders. Remember the Council elections of 1992 and

I do remember those elections

The Russians' plane arrived on time about 7 p.m. We picked them up at the airport and took them to the Mark Hopkins for the night. And that's the last time we did anything on time.

The schedule called for leaving the next morning at about 7 and making our first stop at a farm near Tracy to show off a sugar beet harvester. "Nyet. First vee place wreath on grave of Luther Burbank with ribbon saying 'To Luther Burbank from Soviet Farm Delegation.' Have made, please."

Luther Burbank's grave is about 50 miles in the wrong direction; it's long after any florist is open for business to make a wreath; the folks near Tracy are expecting us to show up about 9 a.m.

The only bright light in all this darkness is that yours truly

The only origin tight in an this darkness is that yours truly had been stationed in Santa Rosa for a while during World War II and even knew under which tree L.B. was buried in his garden, and I was the only one around who did know that his of intelligence.

one around who did know that bit of intelligence.

After about two dozen telephone calls to get the wreath made by a friendly florist in Berkeley and delivered at the hotel at 7, and everyone involved in Tracy notified, we managed to get some shuteye for a few hours.

The next morning we took off

The next morning we took off shortly after 7, headed north instead of east, and I had no problem staying ahead of the bus ... he didn't dare pass me because I was the only one who knew where we were going. Mission accomplished at the Burbank garden, we headed for the next stop by different routes, and since I knew a short-cut I stayed well ahead.

I had two riders from the Fourth Estate: one named Tom Whitney of Associated Press,

and a former Russian who worked for Newsweek. This second man had been a flyer in the Russian Air Force who had flown Lend-Lease planes to Russia, but had decamped and stayed in the United States, so wasn't too popular with the delegation members.

Tom had been former Moscow Bureau Chief for AP, married a Russian girl, and spoke Russian like a native. I wished I could have read their conversation in the back seat. They could have been very interesting — especially when

interesting — especially when they broke out in uproarious

they broke out in uproarious laughter.
We arrived in Tracy in time for lunch, then went out to the farm where they had expected us four hours before. Our hosts were a bit miffed at the wasted food they had planned to feed us but were hospitable. They showed off their huge beet digger and were politely asked what we found to be standard questions the Russians asked everywhere they stopped,

questions the Russians asked everywhere they stopped, numbers of kilos-per-acre yield — stuff like that, that didn't mean anything.

But as to being interested in the big digger ... "Da — vee have something quite similar ..." Baloney! They weren't about to take up room in one of their factories to build a monster beet digger and use up all that steel when they could use the same factory and same steel to build a tank.

tank.
So we bade our disappointed hosts "spacezo" (that's what it sounds like), which means thanks, and took off for Fresno, where I practiced driving fast enough to stay ahead of a 65-mph bus by keeping my speedometer at around 80. And near Fresno we began to see machinery they were interested in I'll ery they were interested in. I'll tell you about it in my next

In 1992 we had five candidates for three seats. The two top vote-getters were Mike Brodsky (2,139 votes) and Thelma Rubin (1,705 votes)—they were the runaway winners, yet they spent very different amounts on their campaigns. Both were very popular, and despite the impressions some have, I believe they both are still very popular.

some have, I believe they both are still very popular.

The election really came down to the last three, only one of whom could win. The final three finished as follows:

Robert Good 1,258 votes

Bill Lewis 1,233 votes

Diedre Sanchez 1,200 votes

Of this group, Bob Good spent the least and Diedre Sanchez spent the most, and the supporters of Bill Lewis made the understandable mistake of being overconfident and failed to knock on enough doors.

enough doors.

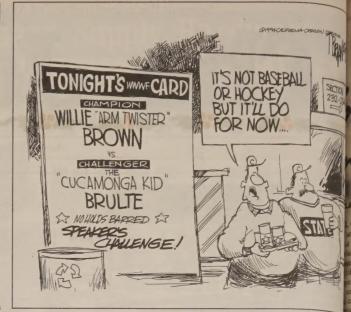
The lesson of 1992? Mike Brodsky would have beaten Bob Good no matter what he spent, and Bob Good beating Bill Lewis and Diedre Sanchez had nothing to do with money.

In 1994 we had four candidates for two seats. Bruce Mast (2,068 votes) and Elizabeth Baker (1,932 votes) were the winners.

Toward the end it looked like a race of Baker and Cain against the newcomer, Mast. Baker and Cain were the incumbents, and they actively endorsed each other. Yet Cain only got 1,713 votes, meaning that 219 voters abandoned Cain and voted for either Bruce Mast or Stephan Pastis, Since Pastis ran no campaign at all, his 446 votes look like protest votes.

See LETTERS, page 6

See LETTERS, page 6



# ■ Police Reports

# Two teens arrested after robbery atter

By K. Osborn

ALBANY—Two teenage boys from Richmond and EI Cerrito, ages 15 and 16 years old, approached a 15-year-old Albany boy and a 16-year-old Berkeley boy on the 1500 block of Solano boy on the 1500 block of Solano Avenue and demanded money on the afternoon of Dec. 18. The Albany teen gave them money and the Berkeley teen handed over his wallet. There was no money in the wallet and the robbers threatened the hove with violence if they rethe boys with violence if they re-ported the incident.

me boys with volence it they reported the incident.

The above robbers reportedly also approached a 14-year-old Albany boy a few minutes later and demanded money, threatening violence if he didn't comply. The victim had no money. He reported the incident, and pointed out the robbers, to a local business owner who flagged down police. The suspects were identified by all parties and arrested.

A resident on the 1000 block of Santa Fe Avenue reported that sometime between 11 p.m. on Dec. 11 and 6 a.m. on Dec. 12 unknown thieves stole a dark green cast iron bench with metal slats from her front porch. She did not hear anything and there were no witnesses.

Unknown thieves broke the of known infeves broke the kitchen door window of a residence on the 1500 block of Marin Avenue sometime between 7:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on Dec. 12. They stole video game cartridges and deacted upsects

They stole video game cartridges and departed unseen.

• At about 1:45 a.m. on Dec. 13 employees of a bar the 1000 block of San Pablo Avenue reported that two subjects were outside kicking the front door and yelling. Officers responded and found the two subjects kicking the door. Both had been drinking and stated that they were angry because the employees of the bar had treated them poorly. While officers were questioning the subjects a cab arrived that the two had called earlier. Both were admonished regarding Both were admonished regardin their behavior and were allowe

to depart.
• On the night of Dec. 13 Albany officers observed a 1986

Dodge Power Ram pickup parked while blocking a driveway on the 900 block of Pierce Street. A check of the vehicle revealed it had five unpaid parking violations. The car was toward.

was towed.

• Unknown thieves cut the screen over a back door window of a residence on the 1300 block of Marin Avenue on the night of Dec. 13. They then opened the window, entered the house and stole various items of value. There were no witnesses and no physical evidence was obtained.

• On the afternoon of Dec. 13 unknown vandals used a dog's ball to break a rear window of a residence on the 900 block of Ramona Avenue. They entered the house, prowled around and departed. No evidence was obtained.

• A resident on the 900 block of Santa Fe Avenue reported that he parked his 1987 four-door Buick Park Avenue in front of his house at about 10 p.m. on Dec. 13 and found it gone the next morning. There were no witnesses.

• In a similar case a resident on the 500 block of Talbot Avenue reported parking his black 1991 Chevy Caprice in front of his house at about 10:30 p.m. on Dec. 13 and also found it gone in the morning. There were no witnesses.

• Unknown thieves smashed open the driver's window of a car belonging to a resident on the 900 block of Ordway Avenue on the morning or Dec. 14. They stole the in-dash stereo unit and departed unseen. Unknown thieves cut the
 Unknown thieves cut the

parted unseen.

Unknown thieves pried the door lock of a car belonging to a resident on the 800 block of Pierce

resident on the 800 block of Pierce Street on the early morning of Dec. 14, removed the in-dash stereo and departed unseen.

• Unknown thieves stole the front and rear tires from a Mongoose MB bike belonging to a resident on the 700 block of Kains Avenue on the morning of Dec. 15. It was secured to a railing and there were no witnesses.

15. It was secured to a railing and there were no witnesses.

• Unknown thieves smashed the left rear wing window of a vehicle belonging to a resident on the 1200 block of Brighton Av-

departed uns

Peralta Av

of dirty linen

# Suspected rapist sought in El Cerrito

By Dawn Frasieur

By Dawn Frasieur
EL CERRITO — An unknown
male is wanted for assault with
intent to commit rape. An El
Cerrito woman was approaching
her car in the 500 block of Lexington Avenue when a man ap-Cerrito woman was approaching her car in the 500 block of Lexington Avenue when a man approached her, made threats against her, attacked and kicked her. The incident occurred Dec. 12 at about 10 p.m. The crime report was received three minutes later.

• A San Francisco man was arrested at Target. He is accused of making threats of force against an El Cerrito woman and brandishing a knife at her in the parking lot in a robbery attempt at 8:04 p.m. Dec. 13.

• A male suspect brandished a pistol at Wherehouse employees at 10:55 p.m. Dec. 7. Cash was reported stolen.

• An El Cerrito man said he was struck in the head by one of two male suspects while he was riding his skateboard in the 500 block of Ashbury Avenue Dec. 8 at 7:15 p.m. The victim suffered a concussion.

• A male juvenile was arrested for possession of a loaded, concealed revolver following a pedestrian stop at 7:57 p.m. Dec. 8.
• A pickpocket took a wallet from a Kensington woman after tumping into her when an accomplice blocked her entrance into Lucky at 12:30 p.m. Dec. 7.
• A Richmond man was arrested at the FoodsCo at 4:08 p.m. Dec. 6 for switching price tags on meat, then demanding a refund of the difference when the correct prices were rung on the cash register.

\*\*Section of the Cash register.

\* A number of coinboxes were pried open in apartment laundry rooms; some attempts were successful. The incidents occurred in the 5900 block of San Diego Street during the daytime Dec. 13, the 3400 block of Yosemite Avenue on the morning of Dec. 13), the 1500 block of South 56th Street at 7:05 a.m. Dec. 9, the 3100 block of Yosemite at 11:30 p.m. Dec. 16 (male suspect arrested), and the 1700 block of Lexington at 2:15 a.m. Dec. 13.

apartment built

erty Street and M
p.m. Dec. 16 for
stolen checks and
property.

Motor vehicles

(evening of Dec.)
wagon from the
Macdonald Aver
night of Dec. 9), Seville from pickup (a c Professional

# The Journal

enough doors.

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# **Letters Policy**

he Journal welcomes letters from its readers. To be considered for publication, letters must include your nam address and telephone number. All letters are subject to editing for space and clarity. Send letters to Editor, The Journal, P.O. Box 1624, El Cerrito, CA 94530 Editorial Office: (510) 236-9243 Display Advertising: (510) 339-4030, Classified Advertising: (510) 339-8777, Circulation: (510) 339-4040 Home delivery subscriptions are available for \$25/year.

# SIDEWALKS. . the cutting edge

CERRITO - If the short d wet days of winter find home in front of the on watching the same old, by grabbing your remote and watching something st. At 12 a.m., 4 p.m., 8 12 p.m., tune into your ble channel 25, and catch ode of "Sidewalks".

walks" is a unique hour w produced and directed nito. There certainly is no ow like it.

(Sidewalks) is like David man and Arsenio Hall ng Entertainment Tonight e weekend calendar section wspaper, with a touch of ch and Evening Maga-ut produced in the Bay ys Richard R. Lee, and director of the mini-

a young Richmond islanted "Sidewalks" six go on the side while he wking with a local produc

intention was to produce ect a variety TV show grating Bay Area artists: to the television spotlight to in the peripheral 'sidewalk'

ty acts on "Sidewalks" lly dancing, acrobatic ing, juggling, magi-ionettes, and rock

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climbing dancers (yes, dancers who rock climb at the same

Bay Area musicians can also seen on "Sidewalks."

Because "Sidewalks."

Because "Sidewalks" has a certain technical criteria, Lee, with the help of his small and hardworking volunteer crew, have produced MTV- like clips for local bands.

"I have high technical stan dards for what is aired on the show," says Lee.

show," says Lee.

The clips are highly professional and interesting. Bay Area musicians that can only be seen on "Sidewalks" include Chant, The Big Picture, Jenny Thing, McRae, and Denise Yvonne.

Cindy Rhodes, who has been working voluntarily on the "Sidewalks" crew for almost a year says the way they produce.

"Sidewalks" crew for almost a year says the way they produce and direct clips for the show is only one aspect of the "Richard School of Broadcasting," using the term humorously to give credit to Lee and his hard work as a teacher and as the sole monetary sponsor of the production.

Most unique about Lee's philosophy in producing "Sidewalks" is to have a crew that is talented in all aspects of produc

Rhodes, for example, a graduate of Cal State Hayward and with a communication degree started her work on the w as a host

She is now familiar with all aspects of production including floor management, editing,

\$5 OFF

M

graphics, and lighting. After trying out all the different jobs required for production, she says she likes being in front of the camera the best.

"Sidewalks" has steadily

grown from Lee's original intentions, with national enter-tainers occasionally added to the show's lineup.

With the donated service of National Satellite Production Media Services, "Sidewalks" has been able to air interviews with celebrities including Valerie Harper of "Rhoda," James Wilder of "Melrose Place," Joan Rivers and Patti Labelle.

Often celebrities will offer tips and suggestions for striving

the opportunity of interviewing Chris Isaak, a well known Bay Area recording artist.

"Sidewalks has given me hands on experience and is a great opportunity. I am evolving as a T.V. host as the show itself is evolving," says Rhodes.

"Sidewalks" success is apparent not only with their interviews of high profile celebrities and coverage of local entertainment events, but also with their frequent calls from viewers.

Says Lee, "We get about eight to ten calls a week from viewers. Some give positive comments on the show, and some people call to comment that the hosts are



Richard R. Lee (top) produces "Sidewalks" and Jennifer Pornoff and Lindy Rhodes are the show's hosts, which is produced in El Cerrito and features local entertainers.

'Sometimes we'll hear talk that band members from one bar will be talking to someone of another band and say, 'Hey you got a video on "Sidewalks" too? Word of mouth has helped us a

And the crew puts in long hours to see their shows though. Many are still students in college seeking hands on experience

Lee hopes to be able to take his rew with him to the big time of a ational broadcasting program.

But the road ahead has many

pay tolls. Lee single-handedly pays to keep "Sidewalks" going

Studio costs, flyers, tapes, miscellaneous office supplies and occasionally air time are all paid out of Lee's pocket.

"Just imagine if we had the money for the equipment, unlim-ited editing... there would be no end to "Sidewalks," says Rhodes.

Lee hopes to not have to give up his show that has come so far. He has been a TV fan from the beginning; as a child he used to set his stuffed animals up and direct an imaginary TV show.

Lee is so involved in his work

he says, "I even dream in video."

Unfortunately, Lee and the rest of "Sidewalks" cannot fast forward life and see the destiny of their hard work.

their hard work.

The "Sidewalks" team is looking for assistance from the local entertainment industry, as well as any financial support and anyone interested in business in the entertainment field to help create "Sidewalks" as a self-sustaining production company and to continue the TV series.

Despite the crack in the pavement where money is concerned, "Sidewalks" does not plan to give up easily.

Lee and the rest of the crew plan to continue to put on a show inviting talented Bay Area artists into your home. . . and all you have to do is tune in.

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# Four seats available on commission

Applications are being accepted through Jan. 13 from Contra Costa County residents to fill two youth vacancies (14 to 21 years of age) and two adult vacancies on the County Juvenile Justice-Delinquency Prevention Commission.

This 15-member commission, which meets the third Monday of each month in the evening, serves in an advisory capacity to the Ju-

in an advisory capacity to the Juvenile Court and County Probation Department.

It has responsibility for inspecting public and private placement facilities, programs and law enforcement agencies which house or confine juveniles, as well as coordinating delinquency prevention activities within Contra Costa County.

Members are appointed by the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court and the Juvenile Court Judge.

Persons interested in receiving an application or wishing further information are asked to call 313-

Ho Ho Ho!

# Film features facts, feelings on menopause



By Michelle Latimer

The social environment of the Bay Area leans toward openness— even celebration of natural physical processes — so much more than other parts of the country that it's hard to think of another place where 40 women would talk in front of a camera about the hot flashes, wild mood swings, facial hair and marathon bleeding that heralds their passage through middle age.

Once the women realized they

Once the women realized they were in menopause, Elizabeth Sher had no problem finding them for her documentary film "Approaching the 14th Moon," which will air Dec. 26 at 8 p.m. on KTEH-TV (San Jose).

"Alot of the women I had originally asked to interview for the film thought menopause meant you'd stopped having your (menstrual) period," the Berkeley-based writer and director told the Voice. "They said they couldn't talk about it because it hadn't happened to them yet."

A few years ago, shortly after Sher made those requests, Gail Sheehy's best-selling book Pas-

After reading it, many of the same women called Sher back, saying "I can talk about it...I'm going through it now."

And talk they did.

Those women who have not experienced what is in some parts of the country still referred to euphemistically as "the change" will be grateful for these brave survivors and experts in the field who share their experiences and knowledge freely and with wit, warmth and humor.

Those who have gone through it but never talked about it will feel relieved that they aren't the only ones who felt such-and-such

Husbands, boyfriends, bachelors? They're not likely to feel too embarrassed or disinterested, and certainly not squeamish.

No technical jargon (or at least, not after you discover that HRT refers to Hormonal Replacement Therapy), no complicated psychoanalytic profiles or witch doctors.

Just a bunch of lively and articulate women who mostly seem

ticulate women who mostly seem to have taken the journey in stride, while some have come out of it feeling downright rejuvenated.

The film was a journey for Sher, too. Like many of her films, personal experience (in this case, Sher's own menopausal onset) was the creative impetus in "Ap-

Before this work, the tenured professor at California College of Arts and Crafts did a documentary on professional women juggling the demands of motherhood, career and homemaking — a supermom flick of sorts.

And since she qualifies here as she did then, she also appears on camera, making some of the more frank and funny remarks other sub-

'What this film is really about is choices, and about taking responsibility (for one's health)'

"Approaching the 14th Moon"
Monday, Dec. 26
at 8 p.m. KTEH-TV
(Channel 10 on
Bay Cablevision)

jects might not have

But if you're just expecting a feel-good, comfy, soft-blankie Monday night, think again.

The personal experience seg-ments are punctuated by solid, valuable information and advice from experts in the field.

They serve to equip all women with the tools they need to enter the transition gracefully as well as to exit the process with a lowered susceptibility to osteoporosis and heart disease — the two greatest health risks they face after menonause

Although the treatments and therapies for menopause-associated symptoms change quite literally with each passing day, the tape manages to seem cutting-edge even though it was copyrighted last year. Sher said that's no coincidence.

"What this film is really about is choices, and about taking re-sponsibility" for one's health, as opposed to promoting any spe-cific regime, she said.

Dr. Sadja Greenwood, author of Menopause Naturally, says that it's key for all women to remember that the transition differs greatly from person to person and "there is no one right way" for women to deal with it, either medically or mentally. cally or mentally.

Looking beyond how men are affected by menopausal women in their lives, Sher is now at work on a sequel that even probes the issue of whether men experience a physical menopause of their own.

Sher is currently looking for men and couples to interview for "Men on Menopause," and she asks anyone interested in contrib-uting to call her office at 528-8004.

The last scene puts across quite poignantly a major theme of the film.

The camera pans a bathroom with the props of an apparently younger, more confined woman strewn about, including girdles and other body-cinching undergarments, pointy bras and an assortment of feminine hygiene accessories best kept in purses or drawers.

The viewfinder comes to rest on a trio of vibrant, middle-aged women looking in the mirror while trying their dead-level best to look 20 or 30 ways their conject 20 or 30 years their senior.

They smudge greasy rouge on their cheeks, don flowered hats and white gloves and affix fake varicose veins, and when friends come by for one woman's 50th birthday party, they help the rest all get gussied up in the same fashion before singing a purposely feeble-sounding birthday song.

It's uplifting and reassuring to see women clearly unfettered by thoughts of their childbearing years' sunset, clearly not wanting to be bored with talk about the significance of it all, clearly just approaching that 14th moon... and

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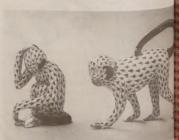
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# El Cerrito Newsline

# ity offering Christmas tree recycling

year 35 million American celebrate the holidays all Christmas tree. Every lose trees can and should led. Recycling Christmas es landfill space, and ulched and returned to the yeling Christmas trees es the cycle of growth and

To facilitate this and to provide this much-needed community service, the El Cerrito Recycling Center will be chipping Christmas trees for mulch. Mulched Christtrees for muich. Mulched Christ-mas trees will be available for use by the public, or by the city for its parks and along the BART path. Take note of the requirements of this year's Christmas tree

program:
Trees may be brought to the end of Schmidt Lane, near the Drop-Off Site, only on the following days: Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, Dec. 30 and 31, and Jan. 1, 6, 7, and 8, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
We are requesting a \$2 donation per tree to help defray the

cost of hiring a work crew to chip

the trees.

Trees will be collected at the end of Schmidt Lane and not at the Drop-Off Center parking lot.

Remember that tree chipping is

a very labor-intensive process.

Please use these guidelines for preparing your tree for recycling. Trees for recycling must be free of tinsel, nails, and stands.

No flocked trees will be accepted.

No wreaths or trees other that Christmas trees will be accepted No prunings or other yard debris will be accepted. Trees will not be accepted

Trees will not be accepted from nonprofit groups collecting trees or from commercial tree lots.

El Cerrito residents who cannot bring their trees to the Drop-Off Center can call East

Jan. 9 - 13, during their quarterly curbside collection.

collection.

Richmond Sanitary Service
will be picking up trees for
composting from its customers at
no extra charge on their regular
garbage day from Dec. 26 until
Jan. 15.

The holiday season is the
busiest time for the Drop-Off
Center, and vehicle congestion at
the site is a major problem. We

suggest that you recycle on weekdays and try to avoid recycling on weekends, when the center is particularly busy. We are also recommending that visitors who are browsing through the used books or in the magazine bin park outside our lot.

By Lori Teachout

used books of in the magazine by park outside our lot.
The Drop-Off Site at 7501
Schmidt Lane is open weekdays,
8 a.m.-6 p.m.,
and 9 a.m.-5

p.m. on weekends. We will be
closed Sunday,
Dec. 25, Christmas Day.
There is a
Goodwill trailer
for the collection
of reusables on
the Drop-Off
Center parking lot. Rather than
throwing away usable goods, you
can give items a second life and,
as well, contribute to a worthwhile non-profit organization
such as Goodwill Industries.
The hours of operation are 9:30
a.m. to 1 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 5
p.m. During the holiday season,
until Jan. 1, Goodwill will also be
collecting non-perishable food

# Kensington parcel tax question going to vote

By Dawn Frasieur

KENSINGTON — Voters will decide on another parcel tax increase on the March ballot. The vote will actually be an advisory one, indicating to the Kensington Community Services District (KCSI) whether residents wish to

The exact price won't be determined until the engineer's report is complete and all the final numbers from the bond issuance, based on interest rate, have been received.

The community has already committed to purchasing Parcel A of the surplus land. It includes land already leased by Kensington for park and recreational purposes and the old Jefferson School site. It is estimated that the parcel tax covering

secured, will also assist in the land acquisition.

Earlier numbers submitted by the

Earlier numbers submitted by the bonding company had indicated that about \$95 would be needed for the acquisition. That number did not take into account the grant monies or recent interest rate changes.

The company also estimated that about \$27 annually would be needed to cover operations and maintenance.

Decisions about operations and maintenance have not yet been

said Lynn Wolter, RCSD board member.

According to Wolter, the board decided that "the original board decision to allow for initial maintenance should be the way we proceed." That board's membership changed since the November election; both Wolter and David Fike are new members — two out of See PARCEL, page 16

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Kendall-Jackson Chardonnay	7.69	Longs	8.69
Hess Select Chardonnay	7.89	Lucky	8.99
Franciscan Cabernet	11.95	Safeway	12.88
Glen Fllen Cahernet	3.87	Lucky	4.69
Kenwood Sonoma Cabernet	11.76	Safeway	13.98
Meridian Cabernet		Safeway	9.98
Kendall-Jackson V.R. Zinfandel		Safeway	10.88
Acacia Caviste Zinfandel	7.98	value	9.50
Mondavi Fume Blanc	6.95	Safeway	7.88
Mondagina Catata Causianan Diana		volue	6.00
Mendocino Estate Sauvignon Blanc		Safeway	6.88
Estancia Sauvignon Blanc		value	8.00
Deloach Gewurztraminer			4.50
Beringer Chenin Blanc		Safeway	
Cypress Merlot	6.99	Cost Plus	7.99
Rutherford Hill Merlot	10.89	Lucky	14.19
Scharffenberger Brut	9.99	Cost Plus	12.99
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Sandeman Founder's Reserve Port	12.99	Lucky	15.69
	5.75	Longs	6.99
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	5.99		7.99
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# Local entrepreneur's valuable lessons

A burst of color greets you as you enter the room that Vergie Specks Renty keeps as her showroom. The color comes from a number of garments, of African apparel. All made of wonderful materials of brocade and African manufacture, the gowns and robes are intricate in design and wonderful in color.

Calling her business Uhuru Enterprises, Vergie Renty started by stocking and selling Greek paraphernalia to the mostly African American sororities and fraternities, including her own Zeta Phi Beta. There are four African American sororities, and four fraternities founded at Howard University, Vergie explains. Each sorority has a different thrust. Some host scholarships, some community service and finer womanhood. Each has a national project.

During our conversation I

some community service and finer womanhood. Each has a national project.

During our conversation I learned so much. Uhuru, for instance, is an African word meaning Freedom. And this is very important to her. We also discussed the materials from which her African garments are made. Some of them come from Kenya. Brocades come from Nigeria, Senigal and Zaire. And Ghana supplies Kente cloth and Mud Cloth, and Jorge, the top of the line, comes from Nigeria through London.

Mud cloth? Vergie supplied me with an article from the Smithsonian Institute explaining how Bamana women from the central region of Mali paint designs on cotton cloth with a mud solution. Fascinating. But as fascinating and unusual as the products she sells, is the woman herself. Vergie Specks Renty is a tall, white haired woman of imposing presence. She recently retired after 40 years of teaching, the last 25 years of which were spent at Contra Costa College where she taught math. Born and educated in Minden, Louisiana, she gradu-

Born and educated in Minden, Louisiana, she gradu-ated from Webster High School where she was Valedictorian of her class. She received her B.S. degree from Southern University, at Baton Rouge, where she majored in math and science.

While teaching high school, she spent summers studying,

While teaching high school, she spent summers studying, including a terrifying summer at Louisiana State University in 1955, the first summer that college was integrated.

Renty took a sabbatical leave to earn a Masters Degree in Science Fducation from Tuskegee University, and later received a scholarship to pursue post graduate study at Santa Clara University in California. And, of course, she stayed in this state.

while teaching in Vallejo and Oakland, Vergie continued her post graduate studies at UC Berkeley, College of Holy Names and Cloud State College in Missection in Minnesota.

Married to Charles Renty.

Married to Charles Renty, who teaches at Lakeview Elementary School in Oakland, the couple lives in El Cerrito and are a vital part of that community.

As noted, she got into the retail world through her connectally sold through the sold through through the sold through the sold through through the sold th

As noted, she got into the retail world through her connection with Zeta Phi Beta. Taking part in their conventions, she noted that there was very little in the way of Greek paraphernalia available. Everyone agreed that somebody should go into the business of selling such paraphernalia. With the surge of African Identity and the population. paraphernalia. With the surge of African Identity and the popularity of identifying ones roots, the Greek organizations have been growing in number and importance. So Vergie became the one. And since this had so much to do with the identity and roots, it was a natural progression to add African dress to her line.

line.

Vergie went through the garments, showing me the extraordinary mixture of colors, wonderful, bright and imaginative; the shaping and draping, especially in the sleeves; the hats that accompany each garment. She took me downstairs to show me the Greek fleece wear, the Kente scarves in special colors and combinations, each having meaning.

She also sells jewelry and cards. Most of the jewelry has to do, again, with the sororities and fraternities. The greeting cards include many celebrating Kwanzaa. And she explained more to me about this fairly new, African American holiday which is about unity and strength and peace.

which is about unity and strength and peace.

Getting practical, Vergie said she is greatly overstocked. She keeps her business in her home, not wanting it to become a store front effort. She travels extensively, to conventions and

meetings, selling her wares. Now her accountant has told her she is carrying far too much inventory. So, she says, she is having her first ever sale. She is

having her first ever sale. She is selling her stock on hand at a 25 percent discount during all of January and February.

Vergie gave me one of the Kente scarves, and I adore the feel of it and the bright, meaningful colors. She says when she wears a scarf or other item while shopping or walking, people often stop her to comment on it, even to offer to buy it on the spot. I can see why.

How much I didn't know about this culture. How much I have learned, and how much I

have yet to learn. And I think I

Thank you, Dorothy Johnson for calling me about Vergie Renty. Vergie Renty has taught me about an important Ameri-

By Clara-Rae Gense

Community Folk

St. #443, Alba

# Letters

Continued from page 2
Again, money does not look like the determining factor. I think Bill Cain lost because he was too nasty too often when running public meetings, and Albany voters really don't want nastiness when they face the City Council.

This myth of the impact of money is very important.

This myth of the impact of money is very important, because it allows the No on F leaders to believe they lost because they were outspent. They tie this in to the next myth, discussed below, that they were the only grass-roots movement. In my opinion, money did not change the outcome on F. I believe that money is significant if only one side gets its message out, and the other side can not. But in Albany it is not hard to reach everyone, particularly when you have many volunteers, and the No forces certainly got their message out, not only door-to-door but also with glossy literature and multiple glossy literature and multiple

mailings.

By the end we were inundated by both sides. The majority of voters struggled with the issue and in the end

voted Yes.
b) There is an assertion being made that there wasn't a grass-roots campaign for Yes on F.
Not so; more mythology.
During the campaign I worked with a group supporting both Measures A and F, and pointing out the relationship

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By Don Lope

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1995

between the two. We never did a mailing; we only walked from door to door. We never printed any glossy leaflets and we didn't reprint any photographs.

We simply put out a statement of what we believed and why, along with copies of letters, graphs and maps. Don't dismiss us — we were part of the election process.

letters, graphs and maps. Don't dismiss us — we were part of the election process.

Incidentally, here's another example of the nature of smalltown politics. In 1990 Bob Arnold and Thelma Rubin fiercely disagreed on Measure C, yet in 1994 they spent many hours working on the same cause — passing out leaflets for Measures A and F.

2) Nastiness

In the recent past both Mike Brodsky and Bruce Mast have been subjected to intensely nasty personal abuse in letters to The Journal. Although both Mike and Bruce are actually well-respected by many of us, one or the other has often been the target of a letter. Nancy Nelson managed to go after both of them on Oct. 27 and called them "wolves in sheep's clothing."

Gosh. Individually, all of the

clothing."
Gosh. Individually, all of the folks are nice people. Why do we need to demonize our

opponents?
Now the new target seems to be Michael Feiner.
On Dec. 1 Peggy Thow writes that Michael Feiner, when speaking to the City Council,

was "sniveling in public." She further describes his speech as

further describes his speech as "bleating."
On the same day, Suzanne Murphy wrote, "What universe do you live in, Mr. Feiner?" For good measure, she later adds, "Apparently, Mr. Feiner and Mr. Brodsky (here we go again!) live in the universe, one located on the other side of the Looking. ve in the universe, one located the other side of the Looking

Glass."

Actually, we all live in
Albany, and we are all
neighbors.

Yet even Bob Outis feels
compelled to write on Dec. 15:

"I know Peggy Thow and
Suzanne Murphy. They are
friends of mine. I can tell you
that neither is a Michael Feiner
nor a Spiro Agnew."

I assume comparing Michael
Feiner to Spiro Agnew is not
meant as a compliment.

meant as a compliment.

How can this nastiness be

It can not

Mr. Outis als "Frankly, I the

be something think we had ethic in thi There

away at this and at the mineed so imperpolitical life, other and ab people who disagree, we preserve our pres

# 



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Shown above: Seiko LumiBrite, 69,50

By Dawn Frasieur
EL CERRITO — Detective

nately, it's the time of year when

Safety tips to avoid

# I El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce

# By Sewall Glinternick

# lection results announced at nnual Christmas buffet

annual Christmas buffet on for the El Cerrito ber of Commerce was held Cerrito City Club Friday, 6. The board of directors a results were announced minating committee chair el Klinger, and the election executive board was held. with 40 members and yas Jim Randall, Assistant inager, and City member Norma Jellison. ous buffet luncheon cious buffet luncheon ed, along with piano-y Marcus Klinger for bleasure. Gifts for the e donated by Empo-eway #751; Lucky Store len Dynasty; Seidell Quorum; Smart & Quorum; Smart & bert's Nursery; Bank of and Alan Caruso

t and Alan Caruso

e; Freeway Motel; The

ics Bank; and the cham

favors for each. Much

tion to all of those chamber has elected Ver ch, California Federal resident, the fourth president elected by the presuent elected by the fera served as first vice-this past year and has on the board for many tively. Serving with Vera 995 term will be Pat i, The Mechanics Bank,

first vice-president; Larry
Sanchez, Marvin Collins Construction, second vice-president;
June Boblitt, Full Circle Travel,
third vice-president; Blair Burton,
-attorney, retired, secretary;
Charlie Weaver, CPA, treasurer;
and Rena Bruton, past president.
Re-elected to the board of
directors were June Boblitt; Vera
Boyovich; U.S. Barbachano,
architect, retired; Rich Weyeneth,
More Car Co.; Pat Malailua;
Larry Sanchez; Marvin Collins,
Collins Apartment Management;
Bill Kerber; Harry Kiefer, Kiefer
Furniture. New to the board are
John Connors, Connors Overhead
Door Co.; Marcia Schwartz,
Mason-McDuffie; and Douglas
DeSalvo, D.C., DeSalvo
Chiropractic.
Officers will assume their
duties at the January installation
dinner, date to be announced.
The chamber staff wishes all
members and members of the
community a happy holiday

members and members of the community a happy holiday

The only way you can offer men's quality clothing at the lowest prices is to control over-

That's the business theory behind one of the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce's newest members, The Clothing Broker, at



Tony Good, left, and John Krogh with then Mayor Jane Bartke and chamber vice president Vera Boyovich. 5327 Jacuzzi St. in the Central shirts, neckwear, hosiery, belts,

Avenue Center.

Putting this theory into practice locally are store manager John Krogh and floor manager Tony Good. Assisting them is Bill Caylor, who is in charge of shipping and receiving.

Krogh and Good claim they can offer their customers men's clothing at "less than half the price of a normal store" because of The Clothing Broker's low-overhead location and its three-days-a-week operation schedule.

"We pass all the savings on to our customers in the form of lower prices," the pair explain. The 14,500-square-foot warehouse occupied by The Clothing Broker is stocked with well over 5,000 men's suits and sport coats. Adding to the clothing assortment is men's formal wear and a large selection of

ing assortment is men's formal ing assortment is men's formal wear and a large selection of sportswear — including shirts, sweaters and casual slacks.

The Clothing Broker also features a wide assortment of men's furnishings such as dress

Adding to the selection offered at the local store is a "Big and Tall Department" with a full range of wearing apparel and a shoe department with a fine array of merchandise.

"Because we know most of the leading manufacturers," Krogh and Good explain, "we can get the latest style quality merchandise at the best prices. Thus, we are able to cover the clothing needs of our customers on either business, dress or casual occasions."

Professionalism at Clothing
Broker starts right at the top and
runs through the store's entire
staff. Krogh and Good bring a
great deal of retail experience in
the clothing business to the local
operation.

Krogh has been in the business Arigin has been in the business since 1989, when his brother, Chuck, opened the first Clothing Broker in Santa Clara.

Good started working in his

See CHAMBER, page 16

during the holiday season. Unfortunately, it's the time of year when certain types of crime increase.

For one thing, said Spearman, the pickpockets are out in full force.

There are certain specific steps you can take to prevent having your wallet slipped out of a purse or a pocket: keep the purse closed, don't leave anything sitting in a shopping cart, don't get so engrossed in what you're doing that you forget basic safety precautions.

The most basic precaution, said Spearman, is to be aware of your surroundings: people dropping change in front of you, bumping into you, crowding between your basket and the shelf, one distracting you, the other with a trenchocat over an arm — a perfect place to hide your property.

What you take with you to a store or shopping center is also worth thinking about.

"I's ee people now shopping with travellers' checks," said Spearman.
"It's an interesting idea. Stores will accept them, and it's a lot safer."

It's also wise to "take just what you need" on any shopping trip, Spearman went on to say. Just a

you need" on any shopping trip, Spearman went on to say. Just a

holiday crime scams

driver's license and the card or cards you need for the specific stores you'll be visiting. You won't lose everything, and it saves a lot of time if you have to call your card companies to report them stolen. (And always keep a list of card numbers for police and credit company reporting.)

If you do have something stolen, call as soon as you've reported it to the police.

"Don't wait a couple of days to report a cellular phone as stolen," said Spearman. "People do that, and they're stuck with huge phone bills—even for international calls."

The bottom line for Spearman is the same in most potential crime situations: be aware of your surroundings. Particularly in the holidays, walking to your car after shopping, for example, take appropriate measures whenever you feel uncomfortable: return to a lighted, public area, ask a security guard to accompany you—and to stay while you pack your trunk.

Mail continues to be stolen from boxes, particularly outgoing bills. A new laser technology allows thieves

Mail continues to be stolen from boxes, particularly outgoing bills. A new laser technology allows thieves to erase the name of the phone company, the utility or store listed for payment. Another name is inserted — your legitimate signature intact — and payment made.

# Baseball registration open

Registration is now open for the El Cerrito Youth Baseball League. The pro-gram is for children 7 to 16 who live or go to school in El Cerrito, Kensington and Albany. Leagues include: •Pinto - ages 7 and 8 •Mustang - ages 9 and 10 •Bronco - ages 11 and 12 •Pony - ages 13 and 14

\*Colt - ages 15 and 16
Registration forms are available at the El Cerrito Community Center, located at 7007 Moeser Way. Fees are \$75 for El Cerrito residents and \$90 for non-residents. Register by mail by Dec. 31 or drop by the Final Open Registration at the Poinsett Park Clubhouse on Jan. 7 from 9 a.m. to noon. For further information call Marie at 237-3201.

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# Pentium chip shots

The Wall Street Journal recently ran a list of the most commonly asked questions about the Pentium chip. "Should I still buy a Pentium PC for Christmas?" was one. "Probably" was the Journal's response. Not exactly a ringing endorsement.

All this couldn't have come at a worse time for Intel, of course. This Christmas shopping season, computers are especially hot. Still, it's hard to feel sorry for the Silicon Valley giant when it kept mum about the flaw for months.

The Intel/Pentium jokes are ubiquitous. I can't recall jokes about a computer ever getting this much exposure. One major source of Pentium gags, as you might

of Pentium gags, as you might have guessed, is the Internet. Reader Derick Sturke passes

on Pentiums?

A. The warning label.

Q. How many Pentium
designers does it take to screw in
a light bulb?

A. 1.999904247017 — but

A. 1.999904247017 — but that's close enough for non-technical people.

And these, from the "Top 10 List of Slogans For The Pentium" (Internet newsgroups are lousy with Top 10 lists):

"Redifining the PC — And Mathematics As Well!"

"We're Looking For a Few Good Flaws."

But perhaps the funniest Internet posting on the subject was a bogus (if authentic-looking) corporate "press release" from Intel. It starts off:

"Intel (NASDAQ:INTC) today announced a 3 FOR

nner (NASDAQ:INTC) toda announced a 3 FOR 1.999945524216 stock split effective Jan. 5, 1995, for stockholders of record as of Dec 9, 1994.

Although analysts were

surprised about the strange ratio surprised about the stange fac-in the stock split," the press-release parody continued, "an Intel spokesman stated that: "That's just the way the math worked out!"

More Computer Stuff: More Computer Stuff: KTVU's computer guru, Alameda's Bob Hirschfeld (he's Channel 2's director of administration), was grinning like a kid on Christmas morning the other day. And why not? Hirschfeld's new PC had just arrived at the station. (I didn't have the heart to ask the genial Hirschfeld if it had a Pentium chin).

have the heart to ask the genial Hirschfeld if it had a Pentium chip).

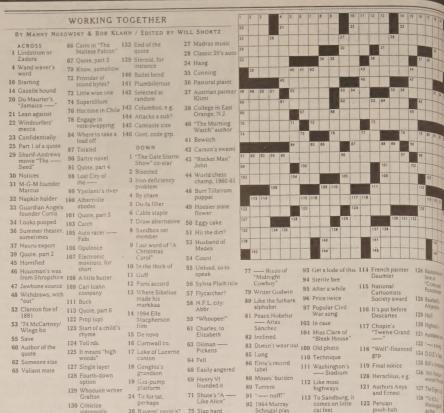
Hirschfeld says that KTVU's been contemplating establishing a presence on the fast-growing Internet as many companies have, including a few newspapers and some TV stations. "But we're not sure what the applications might be," he explained. "Here, let me show you something." Hirschfeld dialed up L.A.'s KCAL-TV's "Front Page" on the Internet. "They're owned by Disney, so they're into everything," chuckled Hirschfeld. Finally, the Net connection was made, and up popped a photo (poor quality, at that) of KCAL anchor Jerry Dunphy — the guy with the hair of indeterminate age that the Ted Baxter character was supposedly based upon. Argh.

Also on KCAL's Internet

based upon. Argh.
Also on KCAL's Internet Also on RCAL's internet magazine was a list of that station's reporters, their beats, and not much else. KCAL, like most other businesses, wants a presence on the Net — they're just not sure what to do with it

On the other hand, maybe On the other nand, mayor KPIX will set up shop on the Internet. And then, not only will people have questions, the Net's interactivity will make them expect real answers — not just meaningless marketing slogans.

MEDIA NOTES: "Why MEDIA NOTES: "Why doesn't KPIX just give up on early prime?" is something I'm hearing often at the Oakland station's newsroom these days. Not only did Channel 2's classy 10 p.m. newscast beat KPIX during the November sweeps when it had CBS programming like "Scarlett" as a powerful leadin. But now, some nights, KPIX is ■ New York Times Magazine Puzzle



losing half its lead-in audience when its news begins, and KTVU's news audience jumps considerably from Fox's often-lowly ratings. But one suspects intransigent KPIX boss Harry Fuller will never admit this personal defeat and dump early prime, which isn't working ... More computer stuff: KNBR computer-show host Leo Laporte, a guest on Tom Leykis' nationally syndicated show one day last week (carried on rival nationally syndicated show one day last week (carried on rival station KSFO), warned Christmas shoppers about blindly buying CD-Roms for gifts just because of flashy packaging. "90 percent of the CD-Roms on the market are inferior stuff," advised Laporte, adding that there's a term for all this garbage in the industry —

"shovelware." ... Possibly the worst pun of the month came out of a press conference the other day in Rohnert Park. The new minor-league baseball team due to start up next spring — it may be about the only pro ball in these parts next year — is called the North Bay Crushers. The mascot is called ... the Abominable Sonoman...

Sonoman...
Ronn's obnoxious nighttime colleague, Bernie Ward, meanwhile, has taken to archly calling himself "The Lion of the Left." This probably causes more than a few liberals to cringe. Does that make KGO's Michael Savage, then, "The Rottweiler of The Right?" ... It was expected, but I'm still saddened to see ABC's wonderful but low-rated ABC's wonderful but low-rated

"My So-Called Life" pulled off the air. It may return next year; I hope so. One recent episode in which Angela (Clare Danes) was pressured to have sex with her boyfriend, Jordan Catallano, at a teen party in an abandoned house was as well-written a script on this sensitive subject I've ever seen. Definitely Emmy-caliber stuff. Many teens are estranged emotionally (and physically) from their parents, and this is one show that had the courage and integrity to show this. The show deserved a better time spot — and a better "My So-Called Life" pulled off to snow this. The snow deserved a better time spot — and a better fate. Its Christmas show airs tonight at 8 on Channel 7, with the last new episode slated to air Jan. 26. Add this to the dismaying fact that NBC is bringing "The Mommies" back next month. . (Why? Why?) [ make any which will n

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# Tear gas users ready for attack

By Aspasia Papavassilou

Music from Jaws resonates in the background. It's sylight. A woman walks on a suburban street. Suddenly a man appears in front of her. He attacks her. She sprays him with Mace. He clutches his face, falls to the gound and groans. The audience of 20 laughs.

The predominantly female, college-age audience is staclass by the Tear Gas Training Group taught monthly the Berkeley Y.W.C.A. The class is watching a rideotape produced by the California Department of lastice to fulfill one of the requirements for carrying

cotape produced by the California Department of fice to fulfill one of the requirements for carrying cc.

A California resident can carry a self-defense spray if they watch the 30-minute videotape, take a 2-relass, or take a written test. In addition, the Mace der must be over 16 and without a criminal record, Maria Verdin, 19, a UC-Berkeley sophomore, came he class after she was robbed in front of her home in himond the previous week. "If I had Mace, I could to used it," Verdin said.

More than 5 percent of adults were victims of violent me in 1993, according to a United Stated Justice partment report. The report said violent crimes in-assed more than three times faster than crime overall. It has to happen to somebody, so you have to be full," said Sara Olson, 23, an Oakland medical assist who came to buy pepper spray. "I'll feel safer with, especially now that it's getting dark earlier." More than 650,000 licenses have been issued since 19, when tear gas, often called Mace, became legal for illian use. In March, Attorney General Dan Lungren lolealized pepper spray, a non-chemical and in some ys more potent self-defense spray.

In the first six months after pepper spray became al, the California Justice Department licensed nearly 000 people to carry it — quadruple the amount of a malsix-month period, according to Veronica Shaneen, sitee Department analyst. Shaneen estimated that 25 cent of the people issued a license since March and to acry pepper spray. Those getting a license will automatically be authorized to carry both self-mese sprays.

Shaneen said that to keep up with the increasing

se sprays.
aneen said that to keep up with the increasing had for Mace and pepper spray, the number of la authorized to offer licenses jumped to more than compared to less than 200 before March, here was also a lot of political pushing (to make efense sprays more accessible)," said Shaneen. feeling is it's better for people to carry the spray mms."

ues.

ce and pepper spray are not lethal and have no
nent side-effects. It's a felony to use either spray
at a license, or for any purpose other than self-

use.

Watson, 35, has carried Mace for three years. He too the class to get the sticker that would allow him try pepper spray. "I feel naked without it," Watson "I've never had to use it, but I have shown it to three ur people who were harassing me in the Castro, and backed off. I felt like I was in control, likeI had

LOCATION!

# Cat's meow



EL CERRITO — Cat lovers had their favorite feline's picture taken with Santa Claus last Saturday, and it was for a good cause at The Feline Bed and Breakfast, 11074 San Pablo Ave.

power."

Watson said he was prompted to get Mace after he was gay-bashed and mugged.

Pepper spray, or "oc" spray (oleoresin capiscum), a chile pepper extract, must be sprayed into the eyes and face. It causes involuntary closing of the eyes, an intense burning sensation, coughing, and swelling of the mucous membranes. Breathing becomes difficult. The effects last for more than half an hour.

Mace, the trademark name of "cn" spray (chloracetothenone), causes similar symptoms. But unlike pepper spray, Mace does not cause involuntary closing of the eyes and mucous membranes. It might not work on someone who is extremely intoxicated or otherwise immune to pain.

Both Mace and pepper spray can be less effective if they are used in the wind or rain.

and if the user has allowed the nozzle to become clogged or the canister to leak.

Elliot Zaret, 25, a UC-Berkeley journalism student, said he will never use Mace again after it failed to foil an attacker. "It did nothing but get him really pissed," said Zaret, who is a former chapter leader of the New Haven Guardian Angels, a crime-fighting group. Zaret was able to use other self-defense techniques to throw his attacker to the ground.

"Mace could give you a feeling of security which could be damaging," said Zaret, who attributed his Mace failure to a clogged nozzle and heavy wind.

Charles Leduff, 28, a UC-Berkeley journalism

Charles Leduff, 28, a UC-Berkeley journalism student, agreed that it was a mistake to depend entirely on Mace.

Happy holidays

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# ■ Quake Corner

# El Cerrito gears up for safety training program

By Dawn Frasieur

EL CERRITO — There will be
plenty of opportunities next year to
learn how to prepare for emergencies and how to help your neighbors
do the same. The El Cerrito Fire
Department has released its 1995
training scheduled for the city's
Neighborhood Emergency Assistance Teams (NEAT). Classes are
open to any members of the public, open to any members of the public, however, and are offered free of

classes are offered twice during the year, with a break for summer. "How to Organize Neighborhoods" is the first in each section; it's of-

is the first in each section; it's of-fered during the evenings of Jan. 12 and Sept. 12. C.P.R. training classes are of-fered on six Saturdays; each class starts at 9 a.m. but lasts from three to six hours according to the level of training. "A" level offers instruc-tion in administering C.P.R. to adults only. Those interested in pretion in administering C.P.R. to adults only. Those interested in preparing to give C.P.R. to both children and adults should sign up for the "B" level; the longest "C" level course teaches C.P.R. for adults, children and infants.

Classes are scheduled for Jan. 14, Sept. 16 ("A"), March 11, Oct. 7 ("B"), May 13 and Nov. 18 ("C").

C.P.R. classes, unlike most of the course offerings, require advanced reservations. (Call 215-4450.) Other classes requiring advanced registration are First Aid Saturday, an all-day course offered April 1 and Nov. 4 and Advanced Search and Rescue, offered Saturday, Dec. 2. The latter course, said Captain Dave Gibson, covers specific rescue techniques, including use of crowbars and procedures for carrying victims.

Tromp 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Drop-ins may also attend Safety and Security, meeting from 10 a.m. to 21 noon May 20 and Sept. 23. Those on NEAT Safety and Security teams have taken responsibility for turning off gas mains, confining pets, removing Jebris from the disaster area, roping off hazard areas and extinguishing small fires, among other duties for which they'll receive training.

cific rescue techniques, including use of crowbars and procedures for carrying victims.

"Search and Rescue" is one of six NEAT team designations. The organization of neighborhoods under the NEAT system calls for such teams to take on specific responsibilities in the event of an emergency. The fire department now offers training twice a year to each. Individuals can learn many important techniques also, said Gibson. Courses which do not require any reservations include: Home Preparedness (Jan. 19 and Dec. 13), Search and Rescue — Introduction (Feb. 15 and Sept. 28), Damage Assessment (Feb. 28 and Oct. 11), Communications (March 14 and Oct. 25), Sheltering (March 23 and Nov. 14), Strengthening Homes (April 12 and Nov. 30).

All are offered in the evening,

Those on NEAT Safety and Security teams have taken responsibility for turning off gas mains, confining pets, removing Jebris from the disaster area, roping off hazard areas and extinguishing small fires, among other duties for which they'll receive training.

Neighborhood captains will meet Saturday, April 22. A course in Wildfire Preparedness will meet just once next year, on Thursday, May

Wildfire Preparedness will meet just once next year, on Thursday, May 25, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

A new class, Preparedness for Pets, will be offered from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. April 20 and Oct. 21. A neighborhood volunteer will teach the course and will also make a presentation during the Safety and Security instruction.

Pets need protection following an emergency, too, said Gibson, noting that they are not allowed in emergency shelters. The course will cover all the basics, from proper identification to storage of adequate food and supplies.

food and supplies.

A number of El Cerrito neighborhoods are participating in the NEAT program.

# ■ Church notes

# Local churches host holiday services

By Dawn Frasieur

• Familiar Christmas hymns will be part of a special Christmas Eve Candlelight Service scheduled for Candlelight Service scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at El Cerrito's Grace Lutheran Church, 15 Santa Fe Ave. The congregation invites everyone to attend. Pastor Vern Olson will speak on "Pondering the Trea-sure of Christ."

The public is also invited to join in worship on Christmas Day at 9:30 a.m. The Eucharist will be celebrated; "Burst int Christmas Song!" is the message of the morn-

• The Rev. Carol Wickersham will speak on "Something to Sink our Teeth Into" at the Christmas Day worship service this Sunday at Day worship service this Sunday at Northminster Presbyterian Church. The service begins at 11 a.m., Christian education for chil-dren and adults at 10 a.m. Worship will be followed by a Christmas potluck breakfast.

otluck breaktast.
Communion will be celebrated at the Christmas Day worship service at the Evangelical Free Church, 7200 Schmidt Lane, El

Cerrito. The service begins at 9:30

a.m.
• A Family Christmas Eve service begins at 5 p.m. at the Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave., Kensington.
The mood will be a festive one, with Christmas prayers, the singing

with Christmas prayers, the singing of carols, lighting of the Advent candles and retelling of the first Christmas through story, song and

scenes.
It promises to be a joyous Christmas celebration for all ages. Please bring offerings of wrapped, nonperishable food or money gifts for the hungry.

A Christmas Eve candlelight and communion service will begin at 11 p.m. The service of carols and candlelight tells the Christmas story in Scriptures, song and dance. candlelight tells the Christmas story in Scriptures, song and dance. A ringing of the chimes concludes the service at midnight.

"Recognizing a Miracle" is the Rev. Ken Barnes' sermon topic at the 10 a.m. worship service Christmas Sunday.

• Candlelight worship services are scheduled for 5:30 p.m. and 11

p.m. Saturday, Christmas Eve, at Christ Lutheran Church, 780 Ashbury Ave., El Cerrito. A Festi-val Christmas Worship service be-gins at 11 a.m. Christmas morning \* Two services are planned to celebrate Christmas Eve with

• Two services are planned to celebrate Christmas Eve with candles and carols at First Unitarian Church of Berkeley.

One Lawson Road, Kensington. For both the 5 p.m. and 10 p.m. services, Dr. Richard Boeke will give a Christmas sermon, and Eric Howe will conduct the chancel choir. The brass choir will be featured at the 10 p.m. service.

Boeke and worship associate Mac Lingo will lead "Three Stories of Christmas" at 10:45 a.m. Christmas Day.

The Shepherds and the Wise Men, the Little Drummer Boy, and the Littlest Angel are the focus of the morning. Refreshments and fellowship follow the service.

• A Christmas Eve worship service is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at the Albany United Methodist

vice is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at the Albany United Methodist Church, 980 Stannage Ave. Christ-mas Day worship begins at 10 a.m.

# Research expiditions featured at UC Berkeley

On Wednesday, Jan. 18, at 7:30 p.m., Jean Colvin, Director of the University Research Expeditions Program (UREP), will highlight the program over the last decade and introduce

this year's exciting new projects, including her own work in Ecuador. Members of the audience will learn how they can be part of a UREP expedition this year.

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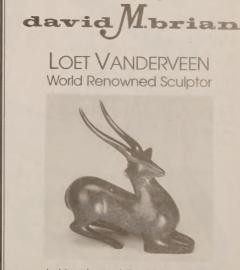




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# Youth orchestra starts young musicians on their way

The Berkeley Youth Orchestra is celebrating its 25th season



Ann Krinitsky conducts both the Berkeley Youth Orchestra and the Community Women's Orchestra.

By Rocky Leplin

By Rocky Leplin

It never fails. The more you poke around the East Bay music scene, the more performing groups you find whose existence has either been a secret to everyone, or to everyone but you. Not counting children's choirs or university ensembles, I thought there were only 20 large groups with regular musical seasons in the mid-East Bay. It turns out there are 23, plus all the others that are still in hiding.

In 1969, the younger siblings of student musicians in East Bay high schools got bit by the beat bug. Not the back-beat, but the beat of a conductor's baton. If the East Bay hosts a legion of excellent musicians, and we know it does, some of them got their start in what began in 1969 as the Berkeley Junior Symphony, and continued as the Berkeley Youth

Orchestra. This year it celebrates its 25th anniversary.

Five conductors led the orchestra through its first 20 years. Its current musical director, Ann Krinitsky, and its woodwind and brass coach, Peter Josheff, are in their sixth seasons at the helm.

helm.

Krinitsky, a UC music grad, studied conducting with Michael Senturia. She continued with Harold Farberman at the Conductors' Institute and participated in the American Composer-Conductor Program, both in Hartford, Conn.

Conn.

In addition to leading BYO, she is in her fifth season conducting the Community Women's Orchestra, now celebrating its 10th season. CWO was a project of the Women's Philharmonic, in order to create an amateur women's ensemble. CWO per-

forms three concerts a year. Next May, it will premiere a commissioned work, by local composer and violist Katrina Wreede.

Krinitsky is also a violinist, playing with the Napa Valley Symphony, the Women's Philharmonic, the Hillmont String Quartet, and some of the myriad groups that team up for a particular gig, never to be heard of again.

lar gig, never to be heard or again.

Peter Josheff (pronounced "Yo-shef") is a co-founder of Earplay, which is now in its 10th season. Earplay, based in San Francisco, is generally acknowledged as the best Bay Area chamber orchestra specializing in modern music.

Josheff, a McDowell Colony Fellow, concertizes widely, and well enough to have had works written for him by Wayne Peterson, the 1992 Pulitzer Prize winner in music composition. (Peterson's The Widening Gyre was performed Nov. 30 by the Berkeley Symphony.) Josheff teaches privately and has conducted graduate master classes in contemporary performance at Stanford.

are master classes in contemporary performance at Stanford.

He is also a composer whose works for orchestra and chamber groups are published by Fallen Leaf Press.

In addition to the certs, BYO's studen bers of the Oaklar

'I don't look it as work, to hear how everyone els plays-and fun to play other people

RAFAEL GOLL

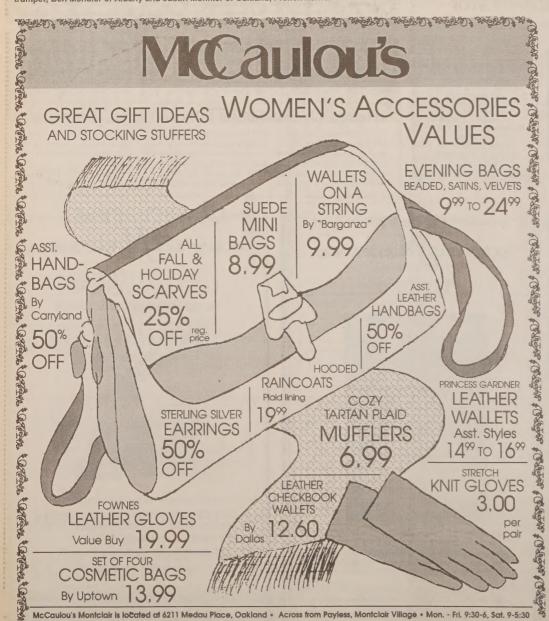
with the Women's Pa and the Young Peop phony Orchestra.

Repertoire runs the terms of musical peno categories of compositheory and education, sion of the lives of whose pieces are formed, are integral gram.



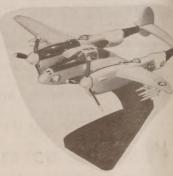


Left: Roger Lu of Oakland plays timpani. Right: Brian Christian of Oakland (left), bassoon; Akpanabio Lumukanda of Oakland, trumpet; Ben Mendler of Albany and Justin Monnier of Oakland, French horns.



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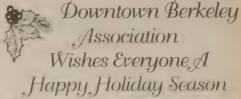
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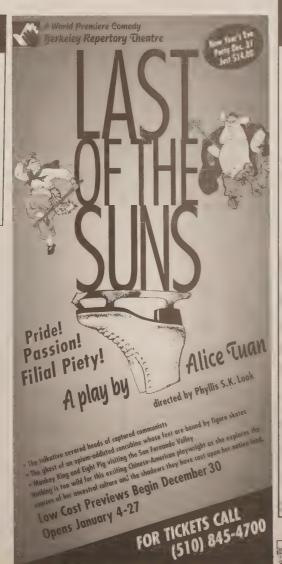
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# ■ Goings on About Town

Performances

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Hall: Dec 22: An Evening of Russian Music with Julia Ronskaya;
Dec. 23, 8 p.m.: The
Complete Christmas Music of Liszt.
All concerts \$7.50 and at 8 p.m.
unless otherwise noted. Includes
a free glass of wine from Oddbins
Winery. 2911 Claremont Ave., Berkeley. Call 849-4967.

Bay Area Puppet Playhouse:
Dec. 23, 1 p.m. & 6 p.m.: Grand
opening performance of "Babar and
Father Christmas." 2353c San Pablo
Ave., Berkeley. Call 644-0715.
Ashkenaz: Dec. 22: Ojada; Dec.
23: Spirit of Pan; Dec. 24: Sister
Ilive; Dec. 27: Danny Pollard; Dec.
28: Billy Dunn; Dec. 29: Fifteen.
1317 San Pablo, Berkeley. 5255054.

Fraleth & Salvage: Dec. 22:

1317 San Pablo, Berkeley. 525-5054.

Freight & Salvage: Dec. 22: Holiday Celebration; Dec. 23: Modem Mandolin Quartet Holiday Show; Dec. 29: Gerry Tenney & The Lost Tribe. 1111 Addison St., Berkeley. Call 548-1761.

Kimball's East: Through Dec. 24: Charles Brown; Dec. 28 - Jan. 1: Alex Bugnon & Special EFX. All shows 8 and 10 p.m. unless otherwise noted. \$18-\$24. 5800 Shellmound St., Emeryville. Call 658-2555.

Sheimfound St., Emeryvine. Can 658-2555.

La Peña: Dec. 23, 8 p.m.: Conjunto Social y Folclórico. 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 849-2568.

Starry Plough: Dec. 22: Jambay; Dec. 23: Red Meat, Nearly Beloved; Dec. 28: Her Majesty The Baby; Dec. 29: The Sweet & Low Orchestra, The Bellows. Music starts Thursday through Saturday, 9:30 p.m.; Sunday, 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 841-2082.

Meetings, Classes, Lectures and other events

East Bay Depot for Creative euse: Dec. 23 and 24, 10 a.m. - 5 m.: Gift wrapping with recycled

materials. In front of Whole Earth Access at Ashby and Fifth streets in Berkeley.

Berkeley.
Telegraph Avenue Hollday
Street Fair: Through Dec. 24: Features over 200 of Northern
California's best craft artists. Call
287-9377.
Berkeley/Althonomy.

287-9377.

Berkeley/Albany Midweek Ski Club: Midweek skiers' social club meets first and third Tuesdays. Sharing cuts the cost of club owned Tahoe City ski lodge. Must be over 21. Call 451-1044.

REI: Offers several Learn-to-Ski weekends this winter. Jan. 7: Royal Gorge. 527-4140.

Congregation Beth Israel: Dec. 25, 9 a.m.: "Jewish Warmth on a Cold December Day: Being Jewish in a Christian Land," a day of learning and discussion with Prof. Daniel Boyarin, Sheila Jelen and Rabbi Finkelman. 1630 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. Call 559-9017.

Grace Institute for Religious Learning: Dec. 24: Carols begin at 10:30 p.m.; Midnight mass begins at 11 p.m. Dec. 25, 10 a.m.: communion. 60 Avis Road, Berkeley. Call 524-7816.

Berkeley Folk Dancers: International folk dance lessons. Beginners class: Tuesdays, 7:45-9:45. p.m. Classes for other levels available. 1301 Shattuck at Berryman, Berkeley. Call 527-2491.

Berkeley Public Library: Dec. 27, 7 p.m.: Kwanzaa celebration with Awele Makeba. Central Children's Room, 2090 Kittredge. Call 649-3943.

Contract Bridge: Berkeley-El Cerrito-Richmond League unit has duplicate bridge games at several times and places. Call 232-6689 or 526-1767.

Kensington Senior Activity Center: Dec. 29, 11 a.m.: Eleanor Wharton discusses The Rime of the Ancient Mariner as her review of Great Books series continues. Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Community

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lington, Kensington. Call 526-9146.

Lawrence Hall of Science: Dec. 26: Magic Mike; Dec. 27: E.W. Wainwright & Phavia Kujichagulia: The African roots of Jazz; Dec. 28: Children's Concert with Gary Lupow; Dec. 29: Johnny Moses -- Native American Stories. All events take place at noon and at 1:30 p.m. Centennial Drive, U.C. Berkeley. Call 642-5132.

North Berkeley Senior Center:

Call 642-5132.
North Berkeley Senlor Center
Dec. 23, noon: Holiday dinner and
party. All events at 1:15 p.m. unless
otherwise noted. 1901 Hearst St.
At M.K., Jr. Way. Call 644-6107.

At MLK, Jr. Way. Call 644-6107. Exhibits

ACCI: "Joie de Vivre" ACCI's first holiday gift show closes Dec. 30. 1652 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Call 843-2527.

Albany Library: "Wood is Wonderful," an exhibit featuring Holgate toys from yesterday and today closes Dec. 31. 1247 Marin Ave., Albany. Call 526-3720.

Bakery Cafe: "New Paintings by Jennifer Pearson" runs Dec. 27 through Feb. 7. The Bakery Cafe at the Berkeley Bowl, 2777 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Call 527-4912.

Berkeley Art Center: "Songs of Innocence/songs of Experience," an exhibition of mixed media work by local artists Edythe Boone, Kaleo Ching and Nancy Mizuno Elliot runs through Jan. 21.

Berkeley Artisans: Through

Ching and Nancy Mizuno Elliotruns through Jan. 21.

Berkeley Artisans: Through Dec. 18: Holiday open studios featuring over 100 artisans. Free maps available for pickup at 1250 Addison St., #214 or call 845-2612.

Berkeley Artlst: Leon Saperstein - photographs, closes Dec. 31. Cafe Kati, 1963 Sutter St., San Francisco. Call (415) 775-7313.

7313.

Berkeley Historical Society
Museum: "Drop Me A Line: A Postcard Review", runs through April 1.
1931 Center St., Berkeley. Call

848-0181.

Berkeley Store Gallery: "Recent Paintings and Drawings by Amy Kaufman" through Jan. 14. 2230
Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 649-0272.

East Bay Heritage Quilters: Quilt Show through Jan. 9 at 300 Lakeside Drive, Mezzanine Art Gal-lery, Oakland.

Gallery, Oakland.
Gallery of the Center for Psychological Studies: "Crosstalk" painted conversations between females by Benny Alba runs through Jan. 3. 1398 Solano Ave., Albany.

n

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Hearst Museum of Anthropology: "Irangeles: Iranians in Los Angeles," a photography exhibition, runs through Jan. 2. 103 Kroeber Hall, College Avenue and Bancroft. Call 642-3681.

Nature Company: "Minerals of the World," a special exhibit and sale runs through Jan. 2 at 740 Hearst Ave., Berkeley. Call 649-5488

5488.

New Pieces: "Shades of Difference," an exhibit of quilts by Suzan Friedland and Rebecca Rohrkaste runs through Jan. 4. 1597 Solano Ave., Berkeley. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Monday -Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. 527-6779.

Nexus Gallery: Oakland glass artists on exhibit through Dec. 24. 2701 8th St., Berkeley. Call 832-8380.

2701 8th St., Berkeley. Call 832-8380.

NIAD: "Floor Cloths and More" closes Dec. 31 at Creative Spirit Gallery in Ghirardelli Square, 900 North Point St., San Francisco. Call (415) 441-1537. "Art From The Heart" Holiday Fair and exhibit closes Dec. 30 at 551-23rd St., Richmond. Call 620-0290.

Refractions: "Impressions of Sante Fe," an exhibit of photographs by Susan Bettelheim through Jan. 7 at 600 San Pablo Ave., #105, Albany. Call 527-8664.

Sticks: "Watercolor and Color Etchings by Elizabeth Kavaler" nns through Jan. 7 at 1579B Solano Ave, Berkeley. Call 526-6603.

Tattoo Archive: Through Jan.

Berkeley. Call 526-6603.

Tattoo Archive: Through Jan. 1995: "Sailor Tattooing," an exhibit that celebrates one of the greatest traditions in the art of tattooing, military designs, especially navy, will be on view through Jan. 1995. The exhibition will show sailor tattooing from around the world. 2804 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 548-5895.

University Art Museum: "Face of the Gods: Art and Altars of Africa and the African Americas" runs through Feb., 19; "A Moveable Feast: Chinese Ceramics and Bronzes from the Warren King collection" through Fall 1995; "Images and Ideas: The Collection of Focus" ongoing. 2625 Durant Ave., Berkeley.

ley. University Lutheran Chapel: "Ad Gloriam Dei" will be on view through Jan. 22. 2425 College Ave., Berkeley. Call 843-6230. World Institute on Disability: Exhibit of artwork by Steve Potter runs through Feb. 23. 510 16th St., suite 100, between Telegraph and San Pablo.

Does Your Heart Good.

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Support Groups and Self-Help

Albany Home Schooling Support Group is forming. Call Dick and Pattee Otterstad at 524-4063.
Albany Special Education Parent Support Group monthly meetings. 524-9753 or 525-8135 for information.

Alzheimer's Association offers support groups throughout the Bay Area. For information, call 800-942-1333.

Alzheimer's Support Group meets at Doctor's Hospital the second Wednesday of every month at 1 p.m. 2151 Appian Way, Pinole 724-5040. Asthma Support Group meets the third Monday of every month at 7 p.m. 741-2442.

Anxlety and Phoblc support group: meets every Saturday at 10 a.m.: St. James Lutheran Church, 1963 Carlson Blvd., Richmond. Call 233-5543.

1963 Carlson Blvd., Richmond. Call 233-5543.

Autism Society of America, North Alameda County Chapter meets on the first and third Saturdays of every month, 3-5 p.m. Call 658-1249 or 521-3973 for location.

Bereavement Support Group, sponsored by the Grief Counseling Project, a program of the Suicide Prevention & Crisis Intervention of Alameda County, meets in Berkeley. Bereavement Support Groups are a safe, confidential place for people to receive support around loss. Understanding emotions, as well as learning about loss may also aid in the healing process. The group will be held from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. and will meet for 10 weeks tarting in Aug. Call 889-1104.

Berkeley Arthritis Club meets second Tuesday of every month, 1 p.m. Alta Bates Medical Center Herrick campus.

Breast Cancer Support Groups are offered by the Alta Bates Com-

second Tuesday of every month, 1
p.m. Alta Bates Medical Center
Herrick campus.

Breast Cancer Support Groups
are offered by the Alta Bates Comprehensive Breast Center. Women
under 40 that have been newly diagnosed or are under treatment
meet the first and third Thursday of
every month from 5-7 p.m.; An informal education forum for spouses
and partners of women with breast
cancer meets the third Thursday of
every month from 6-8 p.m.; A group
for women who are candidates for
autologous bone marrow transplants as a treatment meets the
second Tuesday of every month
from 10 a.m. noon. All groups
meet at Alta Bates Medical Center,
2450 Ashby Ave., in Berkeley.
There is no charge and pre-registration is required. Call 204-1811.
Cancer Support Group for patients, caretakers, long-term survivors and friends; every other Friday, 9:30-11 a.m. All Souls Episcopal Church, Spruce and Cedar, Berkeley, 845-9055.

Debtors Anonymous (East
Bay) meets Thursdays, 8-9:30 p.m.
for free/donation ongoing support,
discussions and practical tips at Berkeley-Albany Recovery Center, 806
Bancroft Way, 548-2483.

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Ave., Berkeley. 841-4776 voice;
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# PRIME TIME LIVING

o our lives, things tend to slow down some. Nevertheless, get-to mean becoming old. We've seen some remarkable exam-ce delying age" phenomenon.

e former Stanford and U.S. Olympic Track and Field Team urs ago, yet he can still beat the average high school youngster drace. In our first column last May, we told you about George first at age 98.

and candidates at issue. It's as important to keep the mind active the body, the body, the body, the sin mind, we were particularly impressed with an exercise parral House in Berkeley. This is a non-profit, intermediate care need of regular nursing care, but not bedridden). Activities ne had invited us to observe an exercise class being led by graduate nurse who is also on Chaparral House's Board of oking forward to her 88th birthday in two weeks. class in wheelchairs, Lessini conducted exercises designed for help included arm, leg, shoulder and head movements; and a prought into play in the latter half of the half-hour session. In this so own quickness and agility were impressive as she continually titer how sharply or angularly it was batted, thrown, or kicked ember of the semi-circled group.

Lessini's very active life has included not only regular nursing, he Red Cross during World War II and teaching student nurses in ow, in addition to the weekly exercise class, she has been workhee office and the thrift shop and helps deliver food to the drop-less.

omeress. still find time to go bird watching and I also do a lot of reading," when asked if she had time for any hobbies. mula, folks: stay as active in mind and body for as long as you can ng Chaparral House, we met James Johnson, administrator of the

House

Claremont

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The

# ALAN GOLDFARB

The scene was too delicious not to think of it as a movie. The drive up the long tree-lined entrance which splits the heart of the vineyards, the century-old stone chateau with the gurgling fountain out front and the four-story, barn-like barrel house across the cobblestone piazza.

story, barn-like barrel house across the cobblestone piazza.
The bearded film director, in an ill-fitting dark honey-mustard sharkskin suit, addresses the gathered crowd amidst cameras and lights. An aging Italian mother sits beside him proudly, while third- and fourthgeneration kin of the sea captain who built the estate return after all these years.

all these years. Cut to: Real Life.

Cut to: Real Life.

The estate in our scenario is the historic Inglenook — one of California's original wineries; the filmmaker is Francis Ford Coppola, one of America's great directors, and the relatives are the daughter and granddaughters of the family who originally founded this once-proud winery.

Coppola, the director of such films as The Godfather and

# Coppola's purchase of Inglenook preserves venerable institution

Apocalypse Now, heretofore had been a low-profile player in the California wine business as owner of Niebaum-Coppola Estate winery. Last week he became a major force in the Napa Valley, having purchased Inglenook for about \$12 million.

Inglenook for about \$12 million.
Since 1978, from about a
quarter-mile directly behind the
Inglenook chateau, Coppola has
been overseeing a line of wines,
which includes the premium
Rubicon (a red blend), Francis
Coppola Family Wines
(Cabernet Franc, Merlot and
Chardonnay), and Edizione
Pennino (zinfandel). As part of
the deal, he will add a lower-end
wine — the Gustave Niebaum
Collection.

The Inglenook chateau will now be known as Niebaum-Coppola Estate, while Canandaigua, a giant New York company, will continue to produce wines from other vineyards under the Inglenook label.

label.

It has always been important to Coppola that his neighbors not think of him as a dilettante come to play in their vineyards. He made this point evident as he sat down to talk to me in the Captain's Room, a small, dark, and cold space just inside the entrance to the cavernous 1880s chateau.

'I never promoted Niebaum-

Coppola because I didn't want people to say, 'Here's a Hollywood Guy,'' he says. "A lot of people assumed I lived in Los Angeles, but I've been living here since shortly after I made a film with George Lucas (American Graffiti in 1973 ..."

"This will not be an operation by a filmmaker who dabbles in it. It will be a professional operation," he continues. "It's not so much of a departure for me. It's still show business."

With the purchase of

operation," he continues. "It's not so much of a departure for me. It's still show business."

With the purchase of Inglenook, he has increased his sphere of influence. In his portfolio now is his San Francisco film production company American Zoetrope; a resort he owns in Belize; and Rubicon, a San Francisco restaurant he owns with Robert DeNiro and Robin Williams.

It would appear that the 55-year-old Coppola is back on solid financial ground. He readily admits that he "went into hock" after his well-documented 1982 box-office disaster One From the Heart. But he tells me, it was 1992's Bram Stoker's

tr was 1992's Bram Stoker's Dracula, which he produced as well as directed, that enabled him to make the Inglenook purchase.

"Dracula bought Inglenook,"

He so coveted Inglenook that even on the day he announced

the transaction, Coppola still had not allowed himself to walk the chateau's creaky redwood stairs to its ballroom-sized rooms.

"I've never been up there because I was afraid my heart

would be broken if we didn't get it," he admits.
Sitting alongside him is his mother, Italia, and wandering through the chateau are Robin Lail and her daughters Erin, 24, and Shannon, 22, whose father and grandfather are descendants of Captain Gustave Niebaum, who founded the property in the late 1870s.
Just last September Lail,

who founded the property in the late 1870s.

Just last September Lail, whose father had sold Inglenook in 1962, had told a gathering at the place where she had played as a kid, that she wished she could "... recreate Inglenook and keep it that way forever."

Although Coppola won't be calling it Inglenook, at least it's a working winery again.

"I've always been interested in preserving great American institutions such as the old film studios like MGM," Coppola told me. "... Now I've saved one of America's great wine institutions."

institutions."

Coppola had invited Lail and her daughters to drink in the moment of the resurrection of their ancestor's estate.

As Lail's daughters allowed themselves to meander through

the chateau for the first time, Shannon came upon a half set of old German steins and blue Delft pottery in the Captain's Room. "I recognized them right away. My mother has the other half in her own home," Shannon

says. "It puts a beginning all the stories."

Oakland resident Alm Goldfarb writes regular wine. Write to him at Th. Newspapers, 6208 La Su Oakland, 94611.

# Conference focuses on baby boomers' spiritual

Nationally known authors Wade Clark Roof and Dean Hoge, Benton Johnson, and Donald Luidens will speak in Berkeley on Thursday and Friday, Jan. 12 and 13 regarding the

Friday, Jan. 12 and 13 regarding the religious life and spirituality of baby boomers.

Roof is the author of A Generation of Seekers: The Spiritual Journeys of the Baby Boomer Generation. Hoge, Johnson and Luidens have written Vanishing Boundaries: The religion of Mainline Protestant Baby Boomers—recently awarded the 1994 Distinguished Book Award by the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion.Barry Kosmin, CUNY Graduate School; Arnold Eisen, Stanford University; and many other experienced scholars and clergy will also be on hand.

Roof and others will discuss their research as part of "Baby Boomers: Their Religious and Spiritual Life," a two-day conference cosponsored

a two-day conference cosponsored by the Graduate Theological Union

University Christi keley, and featur

has shown them towards spirituality institutions which from those of previou Rather than a for

ing congregations, sh towards traditional tures, and the grow

# Rocky Road is 65

It was the autumn of 1929 — only weeks after the stock market crash that would usher in the Great Depression. In Oakland, Dreyer's Grand Ice Cream's founders, William Dreyer (an ice cream maker) and Joseph Edy (a candy maker) found an unusual way to calm their found an unusual way to calm their

found an unusual way to calm their Black Thursday jitters—the young ice cream inventor and confectioner created the world's first batch of Rocky Road ice cream.

While making a batch of chocolate ice cream at the Grand Avenue factory they had opened the previous year, Dreyer and Edy had the revolutionary idea to add nuts and marshmallows to the ice cream mix.

Originally experimenting with wal-Originally experimenting with wal-nuts, Dreyer and Edy soon switched to almonds when they discovered the walnuts left the ice cream with

And since miniature marshmallows did not yet exist, Dreyer and Edy used their wives' sewing scissors to cut the regular marshmallows into bite-size pieces.

"Dreyer and Edy named their creation 'Rocky Road' not only because it described the flavor they had created, but because they felt it was a comment on the time," says John Harrison, Dreyer's Grand Ice Cream's "Official Taster" and present-day flavor developer.

Prior to 1929, ice cream was produced only in basic flavors such as Vanilla, Chocolate, and Strawberry.

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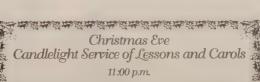
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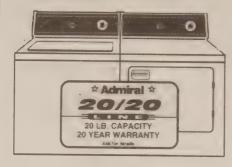


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God Rest Ye Merry: Well, Christmas is most here. Too late now to worry about whethou've been naughty or nice.

For me, the season is filled with nostalgia for the Christmases of my youth. I miss them more

I was reminded of that last Saturday night as I was driving to a Christmas party in El Cerrito. It was a cold, cold night, as most of them have been

As I pulled off the Central Avenue exit, I saw a guy holding a sign reading, "Please! Will work for food. Will do ANYTHING. God Bless."

for food. Will do ANYTHING. God Bless."

We've gotten so used to homeless people, it feels like they've been around forever. But take it from someone over 40, it's not true. In the Christmases of my youth, you didn't see homeless people endlessly roaming the streets of our major cities. God, I miss those days.

Of course, those were the days when most families could support themselves on just one paycheck. I'm glad women now have the right to go out and work if they want to, I just wish they didn't have to. I wish it were a matter of choice.

I also miss the TV shows that used to appear each year, telling and retelling the story of the Nativity. I miss Joseph and Mary, and the three wise men, and the exquisite irony of a divine birth in a lowly manger.

I also miss the Christmas carols. Not the generic stuff you hear nowadays, like "Winter Wonderland" and "Chestnuts Roasting on the Open Fire." I mean the real thing, like "O Holy Night," songs infused with the mystery and power of a supernatural event.

In short, I miss Jesus Christ. I know this is strange for a Jew like me to say, but if one more person wishes me "Happy Holidays," I'll scream.

Hey, it's Christmas. It's a day when millions of people celebrate the birth of the man they believe to be the son of God. What's wrong with admitting it?

Is someone trying to spare the feelings of non-Christians like me? Please don't bother.

Trust me, I'm not offended by Christmas creches in the town square or crosses on Mount Davidson.

Davidson.

Death camps and gas chambers and swastikassprayed on synagogues — now that offends me.

But that's not Christianity, that's just hatred. The
basic message — and example — of Jesus Christ
is just as true as it ever was: "Love one another as I have loved you.

But most of all, every Christmas I miss Bill Hirsch

Hirsch.

Bill was my Aunt Esther's "beau." (Yes,
Virginia, people actually talked that way in those
days.) He was a professional photographer, and
every year he'd spend the whole 365 days making
that year's Christmas card.

The first time, the card was a picture of a
dozen Franciscan monks singing carols in front of
a Gothic cathedral. The three monks in the middle
struggled under the weight of a huge hymnal.
Over on the left, you could see one of them
slightly wincing because the guy next to him was
singing off-key.

singing off-key.

Some were fat, some were thin. Some were short, some were tall. And get this: ALL of them were Bill. I don't know how he did it with the low-tech equipment they had in those days, but h made it look completely real.

low-tech equipment they had in those days, but he made it look completely real.

The next year, the card said, "Merry Christmas from George and Martha Hirsch." It was a parody of that famous painting of Washington crossing the Delaware. Except Washington and his soldiers all had Bill's face.

The year after that, the card read, "Buon Natale from Leonardo and Mona Hirsch." It was a photo of Leonardo Da Vinci's painting the Mona Lisa. And yes, both Leonardo and his model — and the painting, too — had Bill's face.

The year after that, the card was from "Napoleon and Josephine Hirsch." It was a depiction of Napoleon's retreat from Moscow, with a cast of thousands. And every one of them — Napoleon, his generals, his soldiers, even the horses! — looked just like Bill.

Every year, starting about December 1, I'd go through agonies of anticipation. I'd call home from school every day during lunch time: "Did it come yet?"

Of course, the answer was usually no, because Bill always timed the cards to arrive about Dec. 23. But that didn't stop me from asking, anyway. Finally, the Christmas card would come. I'd race home after school in record time to see Bill's latest masterpiece. And I was never disappointed.

\* \* \* \* \*

That was almost 40 years ago. Bill has been

That was almost 40 years ago. Bill has been dead a long time. He and Aunt Esther never married. I'm older now than Bill was when I first

But you know what? Every Christmas since then, my heart beats a little faster when I peer into the mailbox. In my heart of hearts, I still think I might find something wonderful there. Merry Christmas, Bill, wherever you are.

Martin Snapp's column appears every Thursday in The Journal. Phone Martin at 273-9543. Or E-mail him at Snapp@BMUG.org. AOL address: CATMAN 666.

# Library

Continued from front page

wonderful if the library were open seven days a week, eight hours a day with half of those hours being circulation only."

circulation only."

Other community members said the lack of a full library staff might impinge on library access.

"My main concern at the Albany library is that less experienced library users will be unable to get the help they need," said Mayor Mike Brodsky. "We should be getting kids interested in learning instead of mischief, and (do circulation only hours) put them at a disadvantage compared to the people who already know how to utilize the library and find things for themselves."

Good said the impact of school-age children ranging about the library is just beginning to be felt.

"The library is really for them and we don't want to squelch their interest," he said.

In order to evaluate whether the program is operationally effective and accessible to patrons, the Board also established a timeline for the evaluation of the circulation only program.

While four other evaluates the side of the content of the circulation only program.

while few other municipalities the size of Albany have instituted this type of operating schedule, the Albany library circulation hours will go into effect on Feb. 1 if approved and will be reviewed five months

later.

"Though certainly UC Berkeley's library and the Graduate Theological Union library have lots of circulation only hours, there are few other facilities that are directly comparable to the Albany library," said Larry Jones, vice chair of the board.

In addition to the review of ongoing staff logs, the evaluation will also examine community comments.

On the basis of that analysis, the county library will then make a recommendation whether the Albany library will continue, increase, or cancel the circulation

Some also fear the Albany library will be deserted during the additional operating hours, to which Jones said, "The first time the library opened on Monday it was pretty quiet, but now that people know, its hard to tell the difference between a Monday and a Wednes-

He added, "This is not an ideal situation nor a solution, but during the hours we are looking at for circulation only, things look pretty good; its a compro-

One compromise that arose from the meet and confer session was the addition of a funding cushion for security services, should the necessity occur.

"On this point management met labor and decided they did have a valid concern," said Jones.

The means to accomplish the upgrade of library services comes as a result of projected revenues from a tax the community approved last June. Cuts at the state and county level had crippled the library which was hobbling along at 15.5 hours a week.

The \$42 parcel tax will bring in approximately \$275,000 for library fund use. The majority of that money went to increasing the library's baseline operation to the current 33 hours a week.

The remaining funds, approximately \$50,000, will

be used to implement a comprehensivey which is comprised of school children librarian outreach to high school you chase of operating materials such

tenance services.

"The bottom line here is that we shaving this discussion about hours,"
The library should be open seven days underscores the underlying long term.

underscores the underlying long temde we've been having."

Brodsky added, "We've put in somul into the library we may want to conside the county-wide system and operating "With the lack of county and state continue having to make larger and lattices."

Thanks to the infusion of local fue

Thanks to the infusion of local fues has increased each month at a rate of last increased each month at a rate of last increased to its new local bright pink community center building of "It is just growing by leaps and bond you build it they will come, and the coming," said Jones.

In October, library circulation was serious the old average of 23,000 to 24,000 to

books a year ago.

Jones said the board will seek come the plan, including the new bylaws, procedural aspects of board meetings at tion of the circulation only hours, in

# Bikers

Continued from front page resident and transportation planner for the City of Berkeley, emphasized that part of the group's work should be to educate riders on street safety, espe-

should be to educate riders on street safety, especially young riders.

"A lot of people are unaware of the rules of the road. It seems Albany is a small enough town that it would be a good idea to take on bicycle safety education as a good project," Sanderson said.

Susan Adams, whose two children attend Vista MacGregor agreed, saying "If you've been down at the school in the morning you'll see a mob of cars

dropping off children. What I would like is to be able to let my children ride their bicycles to school safely

again."
Along with education, the group will actively promote bicycle-riding on an ecological basis and conduct outreach to local businesses and transportation hubs in order to facilitate bicycle transportation

Some suggested the city acquire more bicycle racks while other residents say the want a bicycle lane on San Pablo Avenue.

Tuesday's meeting was attended by a number of

representatives from Bay Area cycicluding the East Bay Bicycle Coaling Robert Raburn, chair of the coaling importance of a local route map for may want to take part in Bike to Wo unaware of the safest streets for cycing "Some people are unfamiliar with need to make it as easy as possible ride." he said.

he said.

The Bicycle Advisory Committee 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 24 at the Albam

# Chamber

Continued from page 7 father's clothing store in 1955 and since then has served as buyer, merchandise manager, and as owner of his own store.

"Men of the '90s," the pair declare, "don't want to pay \$400 to \$600 for their suits. They want value for their dollars. And that's what we give them."

The local Clothing Broker is open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Fridays, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays, and from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sundays.

On-site tailoring is available

Smart and Final at 5816 Cutting Blvd. opened its second year of business in El Cerrito this month with the announcement that Sam Woods has been named as the store's new manager.

Woods, who has been with the company four years, was the assistant manager when the local store was opened in December of 1993. He replaces Art Marroquin, who has been transferred to South-

ern California.
"Our first year in El Cerrito," said assuming his new post, "was very sanz expect our second year to be even bette El Cerrito Chamber of Comm

Sewall Glinternick was guest speake the Albany/El Cerrito Kiwanis Club month. Topic of his talk was "The R Chamber in the Future Development

# Blotter

Continued from page 2

An unsuccessful attempt to steal a 1994 Toyota pickup was made in the 1400 block of Arlington during the night of Dec. 10.

• Property thefts and attempted thefts from vehicles were reported in the lot at Target on the evening of Dec. 4 (clothing and miscellaneous items taken), the 5900 block of Jordan Avenue during the night of Dec. 8 (indash stereo), the 1000 block of Navellier Street between Dec. 4 and 10 (attempted pry), at Eastshore and Hill Streets during the daytime (purse), the 5700 block of Alta Punta during the night of Dec. 9 (wheels and tires), and at El Cerrito Plaza on the evening of Dec. 8 (clothing and electrical items).

An unknown suspect pried the lock on a truck bed

An unknown suspect pried the lock on a truck bed tool box during the night of Dec. 10 in the 800 block of Galvin Drive; various hand and power tools were

· Vandals broke a vehicle's windows using rocks during the night of Dec. 3; the incident occurred in the 600 block of Colusa Avenue.

Someone pried open a storage padlock at a construction site in the 5400 of Silva Avenue during the night of Dec. 7. A pipe bender and hand tools were taken.

• A burglar was reported at 11:45 a.m. Nov. 13 in the 7300 block of Rockway. He took a pellet rifle but fled when he heard the victim and dropped the gun.

· Someone kicked in the door to an attached garage in the 3300 block of Yolo during the night of Dec. 10; a bike was taken. • Someone pried open a window in the 600 block of Richmond Street during the night of Dec. 15. The thief

reached in through the window and items from the kitchen table.

• A leather pouch with wallet was shopping cart in the 10600 block of Sar at 3:14 p.m. Dec. 13. • Shoplifters were arrested at Target nile and an El Cerrito man) and at the fir

• Two Berkeley men were arre

credit card at the Emporium.

• A Visa was taken from a mailbut of Alameda Avenue between Oct. was recently used.

• The sidewalk in front of America nance was vandalized by graffiti during Dec. 9.

# Fire\_

Parcel -

Continued from page 5

Continued from front page
"I gather that they worked out the situation after discussions with Tom Powers, though everything depends on what the board decides Tuesday," he said.

A positive decision by the supervisors means that the seven employees involved will transfer to the consolidated fire department Dec. 30. "By so doing, they will be able to meet their goal with, as far as I can see, minimal extra cost to the county, since they'll be filling already budgeted positions," said Egherman.

A small cost increase may be involved in that the Kensington firefighters will be starting at a higher step than brand new employees. Egherman noted, however,

Kensington firefighters will be starting at a higher step than brand new employees. Egherman noted, however, that they would be starting out with a higher level of training, "evening out" the score.

According to the El Cerrito Fire Chief Steve Cutright's staff report, which the city council was to consider Monday night, broad agreement has been reached between the city and the district over most of the terms and conditions that would be contained within a prospective fire services contract.

No long-term agreement could be made, however, without first determining the status of the Kensington employees.

"We in our negotiations with El Cerrito can move forward without the encumbrance of having to take care of our loyal, devoted firefighters," said Cutright. "We knew we were doing something they didn't like but felt we had no alternative."

Now, Egherman believes everyone is in a "win-win" situation.

"The employees are getting what they want, the county is getting very good employees, we have a clean slate for reaching agreement with El Cerrito, and El Cerrito can expand its department to care for our fire service needs."

service needs."

The complication is that "we have a three-way deal in the works at the 11th hour," said Egherman. "The employees want to make the change Dec. 30 ... when our MOU with them expires and to ensure continuity."

Monday night, the El Cerrito city council was to discuss the interim plan that would cover Kensington's needs while a permanent contract is being worked out. Assuming the approval of the county supervisors, two interim arrangements would cover the situation.

Kensington's current firefighters would be assigned as county employees to their old positions at Kensington for the transition period. Egherman thought it would

take five weeks or so for the El Certiof
to hire new employees to take oret
one. The county would be reimbursed
by El Cerrito, while El Certio is in turt
the Kensington Fire District.
"In this period we'll be negotiati
points of the contract," Egherman said
El Cerrito will, of course, be taking
ing its staff in order to cover a secondor
service needs.

when asked about this aspect of the Egherman said, "We all have a risk." Cutright and I have both said in different both feel this contract can work, because our best interests to make it work.

"We trust we're going to do it. We about to go do something else, espechave no employees."

The council was also to consider assagreement Monday, a temporary agrees El Cerrito will provide Kensingon's until the two communities finalize a log ment on or before April 5.

# The current board's goal, she said, is to make "prudent decisions to see us through the next two or three years." Though her preference would be to make longer term planning, she thinks "it's lucky communities can do any financial planning at all given the financial situation in California—it's so iffy. "The board is discussing now whether to continue to have the operations and maintenance as part of the general budget or to create a special assessment for it to assure that we have a really dependable source of income to cover land that we'll own." If that decision is made, Wolter said public education would be needed to explain the board's rationals.

In the past, she said, there may have been some feeling that, with the land only leased, "if we can't afford to maintain it, we just don't renew the lease.

"We don't have that option any more," she said.

"The board would certainly prefer not to create a separate assessment," Wolter went on to say. "It creates the illusion that the acquisition costs more than it actually does." she said

actually does," she said.

Wolter is personally still thinking through the decision. She said she plans to go through the district budget with district manager Jim Bray, in order to "better understand the thinking that went into the former board's decision."

The board will meet again Jan. 10 to continue discussion of both parcels. Fike is hoping for a good turnout of residents to that meeting.

Fike has his own take on the expe the total project. Eighty dollars, he sal mate amount it should take to acquire \$8 or \$9 more should be enough to ras up a sphalt and do whatever else is new property, so the community can do w. property so the com-with it."

For "a few extra dollars," he believes tenance could be covered.

The difference between "five dollars 27 has to do with the fact that the difference between the fact that the difference between "five dollars". \$27 has to do with the fact that up operating budget already covers ma leased school district property. She continue to be used, \$27 extra well "What I want is a parcel tax that ext and true cost of the acquisition," he:



# anthers basketball aveling rough road

's sees some positive ough league. thers (3-4) had the mis

ary's trailed Amador Val-ine points after one quar-n the Panthers began scorin the second quarter down only 31-20 at the

ood news for the Panthers and quarter was they held to just eight points.

St. Mary's actually outscored Amador Valley 19-17 in the fourth quarter, but the Dons scored the first eight points of the quarter and led by 25 when the Panthers started to pick up ground.

The stat sheet shows why St. Mary's is not at the same level as Amador Valley.

Jeff Adiego scored a team-high nine points and there were nine

Jeff Adiego scored a team-high nine points and there were nine other Panther players who scored.

Brendon Cook and Nate Fripp chipped in six points each, while Mike Sanders scored five points, Sims and Godfrey McFarland scored four points apiece and Mike Dade, Zach Norris and Don Sims each had one basket. Lee Young-Welshe hit one free throw

each had one basket. Lee Young-Welshe hit one free throw.

"We don't have a go-to guy," said St. Mary's third-year coach Restelli Brown.

One of the "go-to" guys was all-league player Marcel Davis, who left with another Panther player for the highly fertile ground at El Cerrito. at El Cerrito.

Davis was a proven scorer and

See PANTHERS, page 18



Top left: St, Mary's No. 11 Godfrey McFarland couldn't squeeze through a pair of Amador defenders; above: Panther Don Sims drives hard for 2 points over a teammate and an Amador defender.

# Albany's 3rd shutout

# Izaki, Gray and Goldstein save the day, the game

By Peter Mentor

Albany girls' soccer lifted its record to 3-0 when Annie Izaki scored from 12 yards out with 15 minutes left in the game for a 1-0 win over Pinole Valley Friday. This was the third shutout of the season in three games for the Cougars, who beat Mt. Diablo 6-0 and Pittsburg 4-0 before winning this game in a much closer contest.

The box around the Pinole Val-

ing a rare offensive surge for the Cougars in the second half. Pinole Valley had the ball in Albany's end for most of the last 25 minutes of the game, but could

Cougar goalie Miki Gray, notched her third shutout of the season, and this was the first game she had to play from whistle to whistle.

whistle.

Once again Albany coach Della
Martinez praised the defensive
play of Doris Mitchell and Jenny
Graves, but this time Gray had
more shots on goal than usual and
she did an excellent job keeping
the scoreboard clean on five tough

See SHUTOUT, page 18

# Gaucho soccer looks up with win over De Anza

By Peter Mentor

Emily Compagno found a gap in the De Anza defense, slipped by Don keeper Kara Bradfield and pushed the ball into the net for El Cerrito's winning goal in a 1-0 non-league girls' soccer victory at home against De Anza Thursday night.

It was the highlight of a game played on the muddy El Cerrito field and it was the best moment for this Lady Gaucho team that has struggled in the preseason.

The victory gave El Cerrito its second consecutive preseason win, the other coming in a 5-0 shutout against a weak Richmond team two days earlier at El Cerrito.

The Lady Gauchos raised their record to 2-4, not including the tournament games from the Concord Invitational that was played at the start of the season where the team competed in multiple games over two days of play.

The win over Richmond was tempered by the fact that Richmond is not a good team, but beating De Anza was a joy because of the recent history between these two teams.

Last year El Cerrito beat De

Last year El Cerrito beat De Anza 1-0 at home, but in the sec-ond meeting De Anza broke a 2-2 tie when El Cerrito was called for

That gave the teams a split for the season and El Cerrito has been waiting since then to get that game

In the game Thursday, De Anza outshot El Cerrito 30-15 and both

# 'It is a very upcoming team'

goalies made 15 saves.

De Anza forward Allison
Medellin had the hardest shot of
the game, a rocket that bounced
off the cross bar. El Cerrito
watched two Don shots carom off
the cross bar and both times the
Lady Gauchos were able to clear
the ball away

saves by coming out of the goal to stop the threat.

"Their goal keeper is aggres-sive," said El Cerrito coach Rob-ert Sackey. "They played hard.

See SOCCER, page 18

# Jackets refuse to

By Peter Mentor

don't mind losing when the team goes all out.

In this case, Berkeley players gave it their all and got the win, the sweetest of all victories.

"The highlight of this whole tournament is how hard we played," said Berkeley coach Gene Nakamura. "The chemistry of this team! have this year, they don't team! have this year, they don't

St. Francis led 15-10 after one quarter, but Berkeley fought back for a 29-26 advantage at the half. The third quarter was a defen-sive gem for both teams, but Ber-keley could not hit a bucket and

free throw.

St. Francis regained the lead, but it wasn't by much because Berkeley allowed only six points

# 'To win it and go 3-0 is really an accomplishment'

—COACH GENE NAKAMURA

in the quarter and it was 32-30 heading into the final frame.

Berkeley played impressive defense in the fourth quarter, holding St. Francis to eight points. The Jacket offense was able to break the St. Francis press and Berkeley scored 19 points to win it

Nakamura.

Berkeley may have won by even more had the team shot better from the line. An anemic 7-for-22 night from the free throw line was the only sore point in an otherwise fine performance.

To even make the finals Berkeley had to fight back in another fourth-quarter offensive blitz.

See JACKETS, page 18

# auchos look like winners

ad to figure that if El ould go 3-3 against some ation's and state's top the Berkeley and De La siscs respectively, they'd almost anybody else. auchos certainly won't arguments on that point

st week's Eureka Clas

urday El Cerrito ca

tered the contest with ecord of 7-0.

steered of 7-0.

Marking and Damon Lee
the Gauchos with 13
tch in the finale. King
16.3 points a game in
tey as was named M.V.P.
(King) really improved
er this past year," said

coach Chris Huber. "He's more of a team player — he gives up the ball sooner and is shooting the ball better

ball better."

El Cerrito's victories this year hadn't been all that consistent, as the Gauchos saw leads of 15-20 points come precariously close to dissipating.

Last week though, Huber did see a noted improvement in the

see a noted improvement in the team's ability to play solid for a full four quarters.

"The consistency was there when we played up north," said

"Hopefully we've found that. We had leads that we didn't give

We had leads that we didn't give up and we were a little bit more mentally prepared to play."

El Cerrito opened up with a win over Arcata 80-49. King led all scorers with 18 points, while Marcel Davis and Damon Lee added 12 and 11 points each.

A day later the Gauchos beat host Eureka 59-49. Davis hit for a season-high 21 points while king

had 18.

"We played pretty well," said Huber." The teams we played against were a little bit different than the caliber of teams we played down here. Their style was different but they were quality teams."

As of last week El Cerrito's record stands at 6-3 overall with four more non-league games remaining.

straight since their 83-12 over-time loss to nationally-ranked St. Raymonds from New York.

"I don't like to say that we won't lose another game (in the preseason)," said Huber. "But, realistically, I think we can go through the rest of the preseason with winning or coming year, close to winning every game

# Gauchos

# EL CERRITO BOYS BASKETBALL 1994-95

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HOME GAMES IN CAPS

# Cougars

LBANY BOYS **(ETBALL 1994-95** 

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Mar. 4 NCS play

<sup>12</sup> NorCal Playoffs 19 State Champion GAMES IN CAPS

# Albany likes winner's circle

By Scott Kaplan

The beat goes on for the Al-bany High School boys basket-ball team.

Last Saturday the Cougars wrapped up the Richmond invitational tourney by downing Salesian 71-54 in the championship game at the Richmond Audi

The Cougars swept through the three-game tourney, winning by an average of 18 points. As of last week Albany has a record of 7-2

"I'm real pleased with our "I'm real pleased with our record," said coach Doug Kagawa.
"That will help us for the NCS applications because our league (the ACCAL) is so tough. We need a good preseason record to be credible because at the North Coast meetings all they go by is how many wins you've got.

"I am surprised that our record is 7-2. I didn't think that we'd be at this stage. We have a pretty

at this stage. We have a pretty good mixture of kids who are will-ing to run the plays but we also have some kids who can score," continued Kagawa.

Indeed the Cougars can put some points on the board. Albany is averaging 67 points per contest, not too far off from the school record of 72 set back in 1990-91.

record of 72 set back in 1990-91. As expected, swingman Jon Sanger has been Albany's catalyst, averaging 21.6 points per game and double figure rebounds per contest as well.

"We have Sanger, who can shoot it up but he can also play all five positions," said Kagawa. "Andre Rabb-Patterson has stepped it up and taken his game to another level. He's rebounding and scoring much better (12 ppg) than I thought he would."

The prowess of Sanger and

than I thought he would."

The prowess of Sanger and Rabb-Patterson hasn't necessarily gone without assistance. Vincent Chooi, the Cougars junior playmaker, has been pivotal to Albany's strong start.

"He's smart out on the court," said Kagawa of his point guard. "Offensively he loves to run the show and he can pull up and shoot the three. Defensively he gets out of our basic scene but he knows what the other teams doing and gets in their way."

Chooi averaged 5.5 points a game last season as a starting sophomore and has upped his average to nearly twice that amount this year at 9.8 ppg. Chooi is shooting his three-point shots at around the 40 percent mark.

Versus Salesian, Chooi bombed in a career-high 15 points, including two 3's as the Cougars overcame a sluggish first quarter which

ing two 3's as the Cougars over-came a sluggish first quarter which saw them trail 10-3 at one point. But Albany took control in the second and third quarters, outscoring the Chiefs 40-23. Sanger came alive after a sluggish first half by tossing in 11 second half points, 10 in the third

Sanger and Rabb-Patterson led all scorers with 16 points each. Brandon Johnson had another con-

sistent game, tossing in seven

points.

"We've got a whole bunch of guys who are playing different roles on the team and doing a good job," said Kagawa. "They're a good group of kids to work with because they blend well and play hard."

# lose; win at Amador

Berkeley is starting to look like a real Division I girls' hoops con-tender this season after winning the Amador Basketball Classic

the Amador Basketball Classic with three impressive victories that brought the Yellowjackets to 8-1 this season.

The Jackets knocked off tournament host Amador Valley 48-47 in the opening round and came from behind to beat Sonora 43-41 in the semifinals to reach the finals for a 49-40 victory against defending Division III State Champion St. Francis.

Berkeley started off slow in championship game and a one-point offensive third quarter didn't help, but the Jackets came on strong in the end on a 19-8 run in the fourth quarter to win the tournament title.

The key to the wins was the backets of the strong in the strong that the strong the strong that the strong

nament title.

The key to the wins was the Berkeley defense that held St. Francis to 14 total points in the second half by pressing and pressuring for turnovers.

Coaches will say they hate to win if their team doesn't put out the effort and some coaches even don't mind losing when the team goes all out.

ey blend well and play team I have this year...they don't want to lose and that's just what it takes."

"We pressed them and put a lot of pressure on the full-court press and wore them down," said

# Soccer

Contined from page 17
This was a team we were looking forward to play-

ing."
This season El Cerrito had more than enough players trying out for the team and without a junior varsity team Sackey kept 23 on the varsity roster, figuring some of the players would not play much but would learn for next year.

"It is a vary unservice of the state of the

but would learn for next year.

"It is a very upcoming team," said Sackey of his squad. "We are trying to play as a team, which is very difficult. They seem to love the game, which wasn't the case last year (when they started). They problem is I have 23 players and I cannot play them all."

Sackey is still in the stages of teaching the game to most of his players. They know what to do and he has taught them the basics, but the lack of experience brings slight brain fog to some of the players in game situations.

game situations.

"I want to stand on the sideline and tell them one or two things and they'll know what to do," said Sackey of his view of the future. "What I am doing now is playing the game from the sideline. We are at the first few steps of the intermediate level."

El Cerrito went to the North Coast playoffs last

year, but this year the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League changed to a non-divisional system with the top six teams making the league playoffs and the top two teams going to North Coast.

Sackey said his team needs to win at least six league games to make the playoffs and with St. Elizabeth bowing out of the race it will be harder.

## THE PLAYERS

Seniors Jana Starkweather and Kelleen Nixon and sophomore Katrina Vrooman are playing forwards this year and senior Carmela Tan is the center

halfback.
Halfback/sweeper sophomore Tiffany Okubo is a
fender who takes all the corner kicks and penalty
shots. "Tiffany is a tough one," said Sackey. "I
moved her to halfback because she has a powerful
kick. She plays offense with an eye on defense.

moved her to halfback because she has a powerful kick. She plays offense with an eye on defense. Tiffany can stop the ball and break through. Most of the players don't have that."

Compagno, a sophomore who dances ballet and is an all-around athlete, moved from stopper to halfback and scored the game-winner Thursday. Sackey says Compagno is one of the most aggressive players on the field and is a team motivator, although she

needs to pick the right times to talk.

In the middle of the field are the M&M sophomores Maggie O'Neal and Meka Kahn, two aggressive players. Moving to stopper was sophomore Lucina Zehm and senior Jennifer Milligan is at sweeper. Milligan is a good athlete with little soccer experience, although she was able to stop many of the attacks put forth by De Anza.

Sophomore Wen-Yee Choi is another center halfback with an aggressive style and senior Nicole Nelson was on vacation for the first half of the year. Although Nelson was a starter, she will have to work her way back to her position.

Finally in goal is junior Katie Toro, who played hurt the other night and did well in spite of the pain. Her backups in goal are junior Myiesha Phelps and sophomore Kristin Rissanen.

Sackey has help from assistant coach Laurie

Sackey has help from assistant coach Laurie Rissanen, who acts at a mediator between Sackey on

Rissanen, who acts at a mediator between Sackey on the players at times.

Sackey said he has to raise his voice after telling his players the same thing more than once. He doesn't want them to take it personally and Rissanen helps in that function as well as being a coach with another view.

This team has five seniors, four jumores and three freshman. On the freshman Miriam Abelson, Senior Prussin and Erin Dann, and junion

rrussin and Erin Dann, and junio and Liz Fierro.

El Cerrito was scheduled the Wednesday and then take off so league begins January 6 against B, with De Anza is set for January 1 match against crosstown rival All 3th

El Cerrito and Albany will be "El Cerrito and Albany will be joked Sackey. "(Albany coach) refuses to play a game with me, we been very lovely. We wanted to preseason, but she said 'No Row wait.' It's going to be a very tough are going to have to prove themse. El Cerrito showed it could play last year. This season the team will is worthy of the playoffs, which middle of February.

The team is hoping for some nearly carried to the same that they should get what they need to me they need to me they should get what they need to me they should get what they need to me they need to

# Jackets

Continued from page 17
against Sonora, against a team which despite the close game Nakamura called "the easiest of the three teams we played."
Sonora led 16-8 in the first quarter, but Berkeley

Sonora led 16-8 in the first quarter, but Berkeley held Sonora to just three points in the second quarter to pull within three at 19-16.

Sonora extended the lead to six by the fourth quarter, but once again the Jackets finally got some offense and a 17-9 run was the difference.

The tournament opener was the toughest by far against Amador Valley, one of the best teams in the state this year. Berkeley won it by a point and Amador Valley went on to pummel other teams and finish third

final against Sonora.

"Amador lost to us that first night then blew away everyone else they played," said Nakamura. "We won the tournament and Amador won the consolation, so I think the best two teams played the first

"They have three six-footers. Tiffany Green did a good job taking away the ball after the lob to the six-footers. She could easily have been the MVP of that tournament."

Amador packed the inside of the key with a zone defense and it was Green's job to drive the gaps. When Amador would step up to stop her, Green would dish off to a teammate for the open shot.

Green did make the all-tournament team along with Jennifer DeBellis, but it was teammate Maruwa Ngumezi who was picked the MVP.

Ngumezi scored 26 points in the three games, but

more important was her 34 rebounds in that span and a great defensive game against St. Francis star Raya Fontaine that got her the high honor.

"Maruwa Ngumezi shut her down," said Nakamura. "She scored 13 points and had 11 rebounds against St. Francis."

Green also had impressive numbers, scoring 25 points in the tournament, while her staunch defense and selfless passing were a real positive. She dished nine assists against St. Francis, had three assists and four rebounds against Sonora and picked up four assists and six steals to accompany her 11 points against Amador Valley.

DeBellis was also worthy of accolades, leading

DeBellis was also worthy of accolades, leading the team in scoring with 34 points for the tourna-

But Berkeley played well as a team and each ayer added solid performances.

In the finals Kym Ford had a Deonna Sayles scored nine of her fourth quarter and Jamala Rahims in a supporting role off the bench. Nakamura was honest with his tournament, thinking his team three games and still play well. Instead they won two games hy came back to win in the finals for the preseason. "That's really surprising," sid 8-1 record, "I said to myself before it's possible to go 0-3. To win ital an accomplishment to the heart of Berkeley was scheduled op hy home Tuesday and then head out to Tournament next Wednesday have ish the preseason.

# **Panthers**

Continued from page 17 his absence hurt the team

his absence hurt the team.

Will Booker was another St. Mary's scorer, but he hurt his ankle and is out a couple weeks along with Dennis Haynes. The two players have foot injuries and should return for Alameda Contra Costa League play in January.

Fripp, Sims and Booker also played football and are still not in basketball shape yet.

So it's easy to see why the Panthers cannot contend with the Dons, who have shooters like Craig Jimmers scoring 23 points and Steve Flemming

scoring 14 points. Those two had a combined 30 points by the end of the third quarter and they were 12-for-15 from the free throw line for the game. When one was not open the other was and they dished the ball to each other in comfortable passing lanes. Still, the Panthers are playing hard and tough, a real sign of persistence in the face of adversity. "We're playing hard against everybody," said Brown. "We don't have a whole lot of experienced talent. We played close in the first half, but it's the second half where the talent starts to separate itself. You can't lose your confidence and that third quar-

ter hurt us."

The positive signs for the team are Adiego and Cook. Adiego made the all-tournament team at the St. Patrick's tournament, while the 6-foot-6 sophomore Cook is starting to be more confident on his inside play.

"When the big guy got the ball he got the buckets," said Brown of Cook. "We are learning the interior passes. We'll be better by the end of the season. It's a good proving ground for these kids."

St. Mary's plays at Livermore tonight (7:00 tipoff) and then takes a small break.

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# Shutout -

Continued from page 17
Cougar freshman Amanda
Goldstein saved the game twice
for Albany. Two times Pinole
Valley players got by Gray on the
far side and Goldstein was able to
clear the ball before it crossed the

"Amanda had two excellent saves that otherwise might be goals," said Martinez.

"One looked like it was going in, but she caught up to it and

Albany had control of the ball

through most of the first half, and the Cougars had better control on the muddy field than the Spartans, a team with a tendency to kick and run in those conditions.

Albany had a game rained out last week against Berkeley and is looking for a time to make up that

The Cougars were set to play the Piedmont junior varsity Monday, and the team has a few days off before facing Antioch next Wednesday in a night game at Antioch (6:30).

# Albany

Continued from page 17

Albany got to the champion-ship round by downing previously undefeated John Swett 80-69 in undeteated John Swett 80-69 in the opener. Sanger tossed in a team-high 26 points while Rabb-Patterson added 14 and sopho-more Danny Christopher 12. Friday, the Cougars beat JFK Richmond 72-45. Rabb-Patterson

scored 18 points and Sanger 17. Chooi added 11 and forward Chris Hawkins had a season-high 8

ounts.
"I'm pleased with winning the tournament." said Kagawa. "The kids were real happy. Some of the kids said that they'd never been on a championship anything before. They'd always been second."

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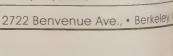
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# reat start for Lyric Opera

e focus of Oakland's new opera mpany seems to be easy enjoyment.

and the close of the S.F. eason, the start of Oakric Opera's inaugural searic I timed. However
reful the season in San
so, I suspect that I'm not
among opera fans in feeling
for a break by the end of it.
challenge for an East Bay
company is to (a) avoid
ting head on with S.F.
(which takes a comparable
and a roster of internatars), yet (b) cater to tastes
by familiarity with the
standards.

munities face such a because, for reasons me, no city west of produces opera at the

in Francisco. story of East Bay opera least poignant. The last y with Oakland in its bakland Opera, did more compete with S.F. Opera, grandard repertory with the st names it could afford, offering, a Faust with mer Met stars past their met Met stars past their production, was so and that it was hard to be company's passing. Oakland in its

## a viable niche

ev Opera has stayed solthat competes not at all Opera. Capitalizing on ee in a university town, Berkeley Opera's prolovers, though some so obscure that they've demic interest" in its demic interest" in its sense. The same was the true of the defunct Contemporary Opera— th companies were/are f presenting delightful,

of presenting delightful, leasing evenings. and Lyric Opera's first has struck out in a directed a polar opposite from keley companies—focusate that is not perhaps hally challenging but is tely enjoyable. weekend's bill comprised eact works—Menotti's and the Night Visitors and

ct works—Menotti's
the Night Visitors and
created just for the
y a director who works
at S.F. Opera. Both
udget productions, but ch, in my opinion, is

A

E

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from page 10

ing fund-raiser and a uck that follows an in-nt retreat which would

out parental involve

The first was held on The last is in May and BYO's first commisment, by Mary Wakins. is the composer/jazz toducer whose Revolutionary of the Manually by the Dance Joseph Gold, virtuoso and musical scholar, will

musical scholar, will raising concert for

ld's son is in BYO lins, fourth chair), I would be helpful to get scoop. In a telephone Rafael Gold, 12, was

professional's point of

caution that he

give OLO credit for in producing Amahl fore Christmas; that's like congratulating a dance company for the idea of a Christmas Nutcracker. Nor were there any innovations in the production not that any would have been welcome in a work that, more than any other, occupies a treasured place in the memory of anyone who loves music and grew up during the 1950s, when the Hallmark Hall of Fame presented the work each year on NBC.

Oakland Lyric Opera's shortterm focus seems to be revues delivered with very high quality.

Amahl is a concentrated tear-jerker of nearly unrivaled lyri-cism, a real little masterpiece, and OLO's cast captured every one of its high points. Interestingly, although Menotti builds the 45-

although Menotti builds the 45-minute piece around a boy soprano, Amahl is given none of the show-stoppers. Yet the crippled shepherd had better be winsome or the drama lacks a heart.

Two boys alternated in the role; on Saturday evening it was David Kasheveroff. His voice has an interesting huskiness at midrange with the necessary ability to soar with purity, and he literally didn't miss a note. (This is a work where half your audience is likely to know every note by heart.)

heart.)

He acted just as well, with no

heart.)

He acted just as well, with no hint of choir-boy preciousness. I found myself gulping back tears as Amahl tries to protect his mother from the kings' servant, then falters for lack of strength.

Buffy Baggott as his mother was simply superb. Singers like Baggott are one of the justifications for small-scale opera productions: to present singers with first-rate smaller-scale voices. I doubt if Baggott could begin to sing to a house the size of S.F. Opera's, but the quality of her voice was better than all but two of the sopranos presented there this season. She easily matched any who have recorded this role.

The three kings were also excellent, especially the rich baritone of Frederick Matthews as Balthazar; and Charles Gravenhorst was a delight as the antic Kaspar.

# Outdated view of disability

(Both Kaspar's comic deafness and the pity we're meant to feel

view." He then freely sounded a very upbeat note about the organization, finding it a big advance over practicing alone at home.

"I don't look at it as work," he said. "I like to hear how everyone else plays—and it's fun to play with other people."

Gold added that by playing in BYO, his repertoire "is growing by leaps and bounds."

"Last year we played a bunch of Russian music; we do some modern stuff; we play Mozart—it all helps a lot."

The strings are, of course, the

all helps a lot."

The strings are, of course, the most likely section not to play in tune. Gold felt confident enough about them to suggest that "a big improvement" in the overall sound of the orchestra would occur if they played not softer, but louder.

but louder.

Of Krinitsky's conducting,
Gold said, "Her involvement with
the music never gets in the way
of the beat. I can always read it."
(This is not always the case with
conductors of major orchestras.)
BYO or CWO can be reached
at 428-1350.

otices of cultural events should h us at least 10 days in advance. Only events taking place in the East Bay are publicized.

for Amahl's lameness are relics of an era before the disabled were admitted into the mainstream of society—another case, like Merchant of Venice, where advancing mores erode our enjoyment of a masterpiece.)

The chamber orchestra was sensitively led by the company's artistic director, John-Kevin Hilbert. The one decision I question was letting the boisterous shepherds' dance—full of high-spirited whoops and shouts—drown out the wonderful dance music, though in theatrical terms the choice is understandable.

The second half of the evening was just as enjoyable as the first,

the choice is understandable.

The second half of the evening was just as enjoyable as the first, though it could hardly have been less substantial. The brainchild of director Sandra Bernhard (who also directed S.F. Opera's near-perfect Lucia di Lammermoor), Holiday Miracle combined disparate elements that shared one thing—their easy enjoyability.

The premise (which didn't bear thinking about) was that a street urchin, Joey, has been given a temporary home backstage at an opera house. The season has just ended (with a pre-Christmas performance of Amahl), and two men who work in the administration of the company (their jobs are never defined) must decide what will happen to the boy.

Shades of 'Murphy Brown'

# Shades of 'Murphy Brown'

The three worry about this problem in a largely improvised drama spiced up by overheated psychodramatic riffs. Henry (Don Coles) has killed his family by driving while drunk; Oskar (Robert Presley) lacked the voice to fulfill his dream of being an opera singer (oddly, these are presented as tragedies of equal severity).

ity).

Ultimately Joey chides them for their self-pity and, à la Murphy Brown, tells them that a family is where you find it; so the three of them decide to form a family, and they all go out to dinner.

It made little sense, but it drev It made little sense, but it drew on many current events—ranging from events as recent as the first half of the program (Henry's refrain is Kaspar's "This is my box" aria), to Phantom of the Opera (about to become the



Sam Coffin as Amahl, Buffy Baggott as his mother

longest-running production in S.F. history), to holiday-related concerns about drunk driving, to the current political struggle to define "family values."

define "family values."

What made this trendy mixture a pleasure was that every five minutes or so, a quartet of ghostly singers appeared at the back of the stage to sing a string of the biggest hits in opera. Against a black back drop, dressed in black with white face and white gloves, and with a mime dressed the same way, the singers didn't seem to be commenting on the stage action so much as interrupting it.

Yet it worked in two ways—

Yet it worked in two ways— for opera lovers, it was treat. For others (especially kids in the audience), the drama kept them from being bored by the singing.

The excerpts were well chosen (the quartet from Rigoletto, "Vesti la Giubba" from Pagliacci, the duet from the Pearl Fishers) and beautifully sung by soprano Keiko Hamilton, mezzo-soprano Shawn Marie Williams, tenor

James Croom and baritone Leland Morine.

Croom was especially good; and indeed, the Rigoletto quartet was as good as the performance broadcast that morning from the Met.

## Ready for 'Star Search'

Ready for 'Star Search'

The "miracle" of the piece's title was, I think, supposed to be the perception about the nature of family, but the real miracle was a coup de theatre delivered by Booney Escamilla, the 12-year-old who played Joey. As the men argue about his future, Joey climbs a ladder and sings the haunting theme of the movie The Snowman, "Walking in the Air."

Speaking of holiday miracles (or at least coincidences), I heard that piece for the first time on KDFC-FM while driving to this performance. It's a show-stopper, particularly when delivered by so polished a performer as the young Escamilla. He possesses a radiant soprano to which he adds throaty

Where does the company go from here? It looks as if such easy-to-like performances will be the thrust of future presentations as well. On Feb. 14, many of the same singers will appear in an opera revue in which (quoting a press release) "Harlequino, a lithe and cheery servant-clown, acts as a comic ringmaster" for another series of operatic chestnuts.

Then April 28 30 we'll be

Then, April 28-30, we'll be given My Fair Lady.

This is not a direction I would have suggested for a new opera company, but on reflection, it may be a viable one, particularly if the popular fare is delivered with such high quality and undeniable panache.

(If you're interested in buying tickets, or contributing, call 531-4231.)

# Historic S.F. and up-to-the-minute Berkeley

THIS IS SAN FRANCISCO by Robert O'Brien (Chronicle Books, \$12.95)

GUIDE TO THE GOOD LIFE IN BERKELEY (Good Life Publica-tions, \$3.95)

# By Barbara L. Sloane

Two recent releases are as dif-Two recent releases are as un-ferent at the two cities they fea-ture. In *This Is San Francisco*, Chronicle Books takes us on a nostalgic trip back to the early days of the city which dominates the Bay Area. Guide to the Good Life in Batheles on the other hand, deals

Berkeley, on the other hand, deals

Berkeley, on the other hand, deals forthrightly with the "now" of a trend-setting city in the East Bay.

This Is San Francisco was originally published in 1948 but has now been resurrected in paperback form. Written by former San Francisco Chronicle columnist Robert O'Brien, the book delves into the city's storied past and weaves tales of spectacular earlier personalities with past and weaves tales of spectac-ular earlier personalities with descriptions of the 1940s city in which he lived. Some 50 years later, O'Brien's "present" seems as remote and fascinating as the earlier days he chronicles.

O'Brien has organized his tour of San Francisco by streets, mov-ing from the Embarcadero west-ward to the Great Highway along ward to the Great riighway along the Pacific. In his journey he unearths the history of the "Old Town," the "Hills," the "Main Stem" (Market Street) and the "South of the Slot" neighbor-

Typical of O'Brien's style is a paragraph from his imagined trip down Montgomery Street in

"Or you might see Lola Mon-tez, swinging along the street in her black-velvet bolero jacket and sweeping silk skirt, her large grey eyes veiled behind the black lace that fell from the brim of her broad hat.

"There would be miners down from the Comstock in their rough beards, their red shirts and bat-tered hats, gamblers from Portsmouth Square in high, pol-ished boots and stove-pipes and

# Books

ruffled shirt fronts that glittered with diamonds. You would meet the characters—the street preachers; Emperor Norton moving regally in the direction of the Donohoe-Kelly Bank to cash his worthless drafts on the royal treasury; the Guttersnipe on the prowl for a discarded crust or the butt of a half-smoked cigar."

O'Brien introduces us to these O'Brien introduces us to these characters and many more: Lillie Coit whose monument to her beloved firefighters still stands atop Telegraph Hill; Duncan Nicol who invented a drink called Pisco Punch and is credited with opening the first cocktail lounge in the city; Edward Gilbert, one of many early San Francisco editors who found himself involved in a duel, one from which he did not return alive; Adolph Sutro, in a duel, one from which he did not return alive; Adolph Sutro, whose gifts to the city included six of the world's largest indoor swimming pools; and Luisa Tetrazzini who sang on Christmas Eve 1910 to an estimated 100,000 people gathered around Lotta's

Fountain at the intersection of Market, Third, Kearny and Geary

This is a rollicking account of This is a rollicking account of the wild history of a city which has had its share of scoundrels and heroes. For those old enough and fortunate enough to have been living in San Francisco when this book first appeared, the accounts of piers lined with ships and a Playland-at-the-Beach filled with screaming, happy vacationers will bring especially poignant memories.

However, whether you're a longtime resident, a transplant or just a visitor, This Is San Francisco will hold you entranced with its tales of a flamboyant city. About the only thing Guide to the Good Life in Berkeley will tell you about Berkeley's history is how Henry Durant named it for an English bishop whom he admired.

Some local residents, not quite

Some local residents, not quite the fabulous characters present in San Francisco's past, do emerge on these pages. Such people as Frederick Crews, Wavy Gravy, Alfred Peet, Galen Rowell and Alice Waters describe their "favorites" in this city, with its own unique personality.

For this is a book of informa-tion about housing, restaurants and cafes (250 reviews claimed by the publishers), arts and enter-tainment, transportation, shop-ping (from banks to video rentals), and sports and the great

An incredible amount of detailed material has been included. Whether you're looking

wares, the answer to your search is within Guide to the Good Life.

is within Guide to the Good Life.

More hints and tidbits about local customs appear under "Slice of Life" sidebars. For example, a positive suggestion about the value of belonging to the California State Automobile Association, and then a tongue-in-cheek review of Berkeley's ongoing problem of naked rights. As the guide says. "'To clothe or not to clothe'—in Berkeley, that is the guide says. "'To clothe or not to clothe'—in Berkeley, that is the

# 'To clothe or not to clothe'-in Berkeley, that is the question.

--GUIDE TO THE GOOD LIFE IN BERKELEY

In addition to 125 pages about In addition to the popular Berkeley, the guide also includes sections on travel in Northern California from the Mendocino coast to the Sierra, and, yes, even

Coast to the Social, and, the San Francisco.

Guide to the Good Life in Berkeley would be an excellent gift for a student new to the UC

campus.

Be sure to get the second edition of the book, published this past August, because it contains several pages of coupons good for discounts at various busi-

Whether you're a new student, a longtime resident or just passing through, Guide to the Good Life would be a steal at twice the price.

# Sky-diving thriller is a dud

Wesley Snipes is a fine actor who needs to find better vehicles.

## By Basil De Pinto

The movie year is going out not with a bang but with a whimper. Along with other assorted tidbits (some of them making a lot of money) is a "thriller" about sky diving called *Drop Zone*.

# Movies

Let the quotation marks serve as a warning: the promise of adrenalin-raising action peters out very early on due to the repetitive and uninvolving script. I mean, how many times can you watch people jump out of an airplane, hold hands in formation, then pull the rip cord and glide to earth, and expect to get a thrill out of it?

So to spice it up a bit, there is

and expect to get a thrill out of it?

So to spice it up a bit, there is a a U.S. marshal, Pete Nessip (Wesley Snipes), on the trail of a gang led by leering archvillain Ty Moncrief (Gary Busey). Naturally, Nessip learns overnight how to sky dive to keep up with his nemesis, and there are endless chases and shoot-outs culminating in a Fourth of July showdown, complete with fireworks.

All this would be harmless

All this would be harmless enough if one did not think (dan-

gerous occupation) about the absurdities of the plot and the waste of a talent like Snipes who

waste of a talent like Snipes who has shown on other occasions how well he can act, given half a chance, or screenplay.

This has got to be one of the sloppiest pieces of movie making in many a moon. A scene will start out in dark tones and suddenly shift to light ones; nothing has intervened but poor splicing of film. (Let the record show that the editing was done by Frank Morriss.)

A crucial early sequence

Morriss.)

A crucial early sequence begins on what looks like a smallish jet, with two rows of seats, two abreast, on either side of a central aisle. The plane is then seen taking off — and it's a 747. Has anybody in the studio traveled on a commecial airliner recently, that is, in the last 30 years or so?

On board the plane, whatever On board the plane, whatever its make, is a computer hacker, Earl Leedy (Michael Jeter) who is being escorted to jail by Nessip and his brother, Terry (Malcolm-Jamal Warner). Leedy is not a sky diver himself, but he works for the mob who engage in it, so what is more fitting than springing Leedy by blowing a hole in the plane and jumping with him to freedom.

Does this sound implausible?

Does this sound implausible? Oh, wait, there's more. Since the

hero of the picture is on board, the plane could hardly be allowed to crash, even with a hole in its side the size of the entrance to the

Caldecott Tunnel.

But of course a few expendable characters have been sucked out of the hole, among them Nessip's brother. Presto: instant moti-

A convict escapes by blowing a hole in the side of a plane and jumping.

vation for the hero to pursue the dastardly crooks with greater vigor, even though he must become an instant expert in sky

With predictable comic touches, Nessip goes through a sky diver's basic training and gets his golden parachute in time to send the crooks to predictable gory endings.

The only thing that doesn't fol-low a predictable pattern is the female participant, Yancy Butler



Malcolm Jamai-Warner, left, and Wesley Snipes play brothers in 'Drop Zone

(no, her name is not Nancy; we ovie, right?

What's unexpected is that she doesn't play Nessip's love interest. Whether this gesture is politi-

cally correct or not I leave, dear reader, to your judgment.

Your reporter will venture the judgment that *Drop Zone* should have been dropped in the planning stages, and that Wesley Snipes needs to go on a very serious hunt for a some decent roles. He spends a lot of time between good parts; his last one was the

winter is an that bound

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# 'The Joy of (Blee) John Fisher's latest:

The play that dares not speak its name has settled in for a long

# By Don McConnell

By Don McConnell

Has John Fisher outgrown the East Bay? The sensation of the UC-Berkeley drama department for plays like Napoleon: The Camp-Drag-Disco-Musical Extravaganza and last summer's Medea, The Musical, Fisher tried out his latest play here, then took it across the Bay, where it's settled in for a long run.

The play is the provocatively titled The Joy of Gay Sex, named after the sex manual that had already gained a sort of literary fame for being co-authored by novelist Edmund White.

I caught Fisher's new show when it played as a benefit at Berkeley's La Pena Cultural Center, and (perhaps) needless to say, it is not the libro extra grant and the sext menual.

Berkeley's La Pena Cultural Center, and (perhaps) needless to say, it is nothing like a sex manual.

Like Fisher's other plays, but with less music, Joy is a wickedly pointed satire on sexual politics, gay and otherwise. All of the characters are gay or lesbian Cal students, but except for that orientation, the plot and the writing could be the work of Neil Simon or Woody Allen.

# Stage

Most of the characters are, as in more traditional comedies, looking for love, and the search is complicated by the insistence of one character that the search be

one character that the search be politically correct — using the term in its most rigid sense. At one point, a woman protests that her life is not about "furthering the Lesbian Narrative."

The actors are the same ones who appeared in *Medea*, all former or present Cal drama students who have worked with Fisher before, and most are superlative comedians. More than the intricately plotted *Medea*, this play is largely a string of scintillating one-liners, much like the comedies of Oscar Wilde.

Fisher's plays are not just for

dies of Oscar Wilde.

Fisher's plays are not just for gays and lesbians, any more than Simon's coming-of-age-in-Brooklyn plays are just for Jews. For example, one character tells how the mother of his lover, while not consciously acknowledging their relationship, unconsciously does so by giving him a Johnny Mathis album.

The gift with a message specialty of mothers everywhere

has seldom been so neatly
skewered, and it leads to a discussion of mothers that is as universal as it is hilarious.

sal as it is hilarious.

The play's run at Theatre Rhinoceros has been selling out since it opened Dec. 1, and it has delighted its S.F. reviewers, one of whom called it "the gay Manhattan." However, as its producer, Oakland's Jon Zimmerman, noted in a phone call, no paper has been willing to put the play's title in the headline, most

To subscribe. call 339-4040. The gift with a message—that specialty of mothers everywhere.

preferring to call it "Joy: The Musical"). Zimmerman says he's even been approached about making the play into a film.

The show is shuts down this week for Christmas, before its final week at Theatre Rhinoceros Dec. 29 to 31 (at 8:30 p.m.). It reopens Jan. 12 or 13 for an indefinite run at the Bay Front Theater at Fort Mason. For the Rhino shows, call (415) 861-5079; for more information on the Bay Front shows, call (415) 441-5706.

Not for everyone, but don't be scared by the title. The play





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# ■ East Bay Events This Week

# Victorian Christmas at Oakland Museum

The **Oakland Museum** has assembled a display of Victorian tree ornaments and toys in its Cowell Hall of California History. The display is built around a tree mounted on a Victorian platform, a recreation of a turn-of-the-century furnished interior, and decorated with ornaments produced in Germany and Czechoslovakia between 1890 and 1915. Other interior scenes contain toys from other eras, including the Gold Rush and World War II. The museum is at Oak and 10th streets, Oakland. Call 238-3401 for holiday hours or more details.

# Oakland Ballet's 'Nutcracker' continues

The final performances of **Oakland Ballet's** production of *The Nutcracker* take place today through Saturday at the Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. Performances are today at 7 p.m., Friday at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., and Saturday at 11 a.m. All feature the **Oak**day at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., and Saturday at 11 a.m. A land East Bay Symphony.

Tickets are \$5 to \$35. Call 465-6400 or 762-BASS.

# Early Christmas music on Christmas Eve

The **Festival Consort** presents its fifth annual Christmas Eve concert of carols, instrumental fantasies, motets and traditional English folk songs performed by musicians in medieval costume. The concert is at 7 p.m. Saturday at the Julia Morgan Theater, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. Tickets are \$12 (\$9 seniors/students). Call (415) 456-5367 for reser-

# 'Babar and Father Christmas'

The Carter Family Marionettes present Babar and Father Christmas at both 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Friday at the Bay Area Puppet Playhouse, 2353-C San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. Tickets are \$6 (\$4 for children under 12). Call 644-0715.

# **UAM exhibit spotlights American folk art**

The exhibit "American Vernacular: Folk Art From the Collection," which opened last week at the University Art Museum, examines the work of American artists, mostly from New England, from the late 18th to the late 19th century. The museum has been building a major collection of folk art due largely to gifts from two patrons, W.B. Carnochan and N.C. Edebo.

The current exhibit, which continues through April 16, includes promised gifts as well as items already in the museum collection. The UAM is at 2625 Durant Ave., Berkeley; phone 642-0808.



Horse weathervane by an unknown American craftsman, about 1820. Painted bronze.

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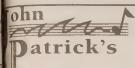
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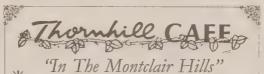
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to the many people I encounter as I'm "Out and About" throughout the year. For all of you faithful readers out there, I send a special message as well. Circle the first letter from the first name in the beginning of each paragraph below and discover the thoughts that I send your way. Happy Holidays!

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# New name, new styling, new engineering and new technology

The 1995 Pontiac Sunfire made its debut this fall with sporty exte-rior styling and fun-to-drive per-sonality to fit into the adventur-ous and active life-styles of today's small car buyers at an offordable

small car buyers at an offordable price.

"The Pontiac Sunfire is all new—a new name, sensational new styling, new engineering and new technology," said Pontiac General Manager John G. Middlebrook. "We've designed this car to make driving more exciting for value-minded small-car buyers who maintain active, funlifestyles. The 1995 Sunfire offers standard driverand passenger airbags, anti-lock brakes, rear seat heating and ventilation ducts as well as state-of-the-art structural, chassis and safety features. We think the 1995 Sunfire will make quite an impression on the small car segment!"

Sunfire's all-new exterior is expressively Pontiac from the sporty Firebird-inspired front fascia to the lighted "Pontiac" name-plate on the rear decklid. Incorporating Pontiac's distinctive front dual ports into a sleek, aerody-namic body, designers crafted a strong statement for Pontiac's excitement image while creating an efficient total package. With the

namic body, designers crafted a strong statement for Pontiac's excitement image while creating an efficient total package. With the introduction at mid-model year of the GT Coupe, Sunfire draws more fully upon Pontiac's performance image with GT-specific front and rear fascias, aero package, black roof treatment, rear deck spoiler, dual oval exhaust, 16-inch Goodyear Eagle RSA tires and GT-specific cast aluminum wheels.

Wheels and wheel covers for the 1995 Sunfire illustrate Pontiac's exterior styling philosophy. One look at Sunfire's all-new wheels and wheel covers tells the car buyer that this is a sportsminded, fun-to-drive car for the young and the young-minded. The 16-inch, GT-specific, three-blade cast aluminum wheel and the 15-inch Rally cast aluminum wheel are examples of how designers used a combination of bold, sharp edges and softened arcs to achieve the image of motion. The same concept is found in the 14-inch and 15-inch custom bolt-on Sunfire wheel covers.

The form and pierce process is used at Lordstown, Ohio Assembly Center to achieve world class body fit and exterior appearance in Sunfire Coups and Sedans. This process consists of a series of

in Sunfire Coups and Sedans. This process consists of a series of machines that check, gauge and map each car body frame, then position each and every body panel in relation to the body framework. Once these customized mounting positions have been identified, each station forms a mounting pad with a pierced hole used later in the assembly process to locate and secure panels. Although variations among car bodies are very minor, the result is a superior custom fit of each and every body panel.

panel.

The interior of the 1995 Sunfire gives occupants the sensation of being in a larger car. The SE Sedan, for example, offers more than 105 cu. ft. of usable space (including trunk). Sunfire's standard full fold-down rear seat gives the owner choices in how to use this space. This thoughtful feature allows Sunfire owners to carry longer loads such as skis and surf boards with the decklid shut.

carry longer loads such as such as such and surf boards with the decklid shut.

In addition to being spacious, the Sunfire interior was designed for driver convenience. Radio and HVAC controls, for example, are angled toward the driver for improved ergonomics, safety and that distinctive Pontiac cockpit feel. Cluster gauges with standard tachometer are easy to read and dual stalk controls help put the Sunfire driver in control.

Rear heating and ventilation ducts are standard on all Sunfire models. This amenity, normally found on larger cars costing much more, distributes air conditioning (available on all models) and heat to rear seat passengers for their added comfort.

A center console is designed for driver and passenger comfortand convenience. The console includes cupholders, armrest and side-mounted parking brake. When the front console ashtray is removed, the space becomes an additional cupholder for driver or passenger convenience. The ashtray can be installed in a rear



The 1995 Pontiac Sunfire Sedan

cupholder or simply removed from

cupholder or simply removed from use.

In today's electronic world, a number of devices such as the cellular telephone, use a vehicle's cigarette lighter well for an electrical outlet. Sunfire designers provided for this usage and created a special pocket on the console to store the lighter when the lighter well is being used for other purposes. The Sunfire interior also offers the convenience of compact disc and cassette storage in the console and door map pockets. There's never enough closet space in a house or storage space

in a car, and for years, car buyers have wanted a larger glove box. Pontiac Sunfire designers have taken heed, giving customers a voluminous 4.9 liter glove box with lock to hold those official papers, sunglasses, and maps and still have room for a lot more. An average-sized ladies purse will fit inside the Sunfire glove box.

Sunfire's devotion to safety is aptly represented in the total design, which takes its styling cues from the two Sunfire concept cars introduced in 1991 and 1994. The 1995 Sunfire has a safety cage that cradles the passenger com-

partment with reinforced structural steel components to help protect occupants during a collision. The safety cage concept is designed to work in conjunction with other occupant protection features such as safety belts, sideguard door beams, padded instrument panel and energy-absorbing steering column and the standard driver and passenger airbags.

The sporty Sunfire SE Sedan and SE Coupe get their power from a 2.2 liter, 120-horsepower OHV engine that delivers 130 ft. lbs. of torque. Sunfire customers may choose the standard 5-speed



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wheel spin. This information is sent to the Powertrain Control Module (PCM) every 125 millisectonds. The PCM then calculates a spark retard value to achieve the requested torque and the transmission is upshifted as determined by the ICC.

Sunfire drivers will most likely choose to enable ETS in most conditions, but there are certain conditions in which a vehicle performs better without traction control. These conditions in traction control. These conditions include launching in loose snow, gravel or sand, or when using tire chains. Since the normal mode is "on," an instrument panel telltale lamp will be illuminated only when the system is manually turned off or automatically shut off by on-board diagnostic systems.

Sunfire automatic transmissions are factory-filled with DEXRON III, a new transmission fluid that never needs replacement under normal use conditions. Additionally, Sunfire uses long-life platinum tipped spark plugs that last up to 100,000 miles.

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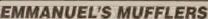
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2700 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 848-2206

# Bergman takes the helm as BAR's 1995 preside

The Berkeley Association of Realtors held its 93rd annual Inaugural Ceremonies at the historic Claremont Hotel Dec. 15.

At the gala dinner and dance, Ruth Altamarino-Ahoy, BAR's 1994 president, passed the gavel of the BAR's presidency to Eu-

gene Bergman.

Having delegated her office to Bergman, Altamarino-Ahoy joins the select group of BAR's post presidents.

Fifteen members of this group were present to witness Bergman's inaugural: Claude Daughtry (1953); Jerome Blank (1957); John Mason (1967); Jack Setzer (1969); Frank Battino (1974); Victor Stachura (1977); David Malcolm (1978 and 1980); Peter Campbell (1979); Deborah Ritchie (1982); Frank Wong (1983); Terry Pedersen (1983); David Ruegg (1987); Laurie Cappitelli (1989); Russell Kierce (1990); and Anita Thede (1992).

The ceremony was witnessed by Berkeley's mayor, Shirley Dean and councilmembers Diane Bauer, Carla Woodworth, and Polly Armstrong. Bill Taylor represented Councilmember

Dona Spring.

As 1995 president, Bergman headed the slate of officers installed by the California Association of Realtors' regional chair, Sharon Lucero.

Michael Byrga was installed

Michael Byrne was installed as president-elect, Don Clark as secretary-treasurer.

Frank Battino will serve BAR as its chief executive director.

Past president Anita Thede was honored by her colleagues

as Realtor of the Year.

Affiliate of the Year honors went to Flo Albonico.

David Kafton was the recipient of the Realtor-Associate of the Year award.

In his inaugural address, Bergman called for improved



Above: Outgoing President Ruth Altamarino-Ahoy passes the gavel to the new 1995 BAR President Eugene Bergnal Kafton received Realfor-Associate of the Year Award for 1994.





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739 Norvell, El Cerrho
Come home to this attractive 2bd home with a peek view in a
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ready to move in & begin enjoying a new lifestyle in the new
year. Very convenient to transportation, shopping & recreation
facilities. Huge amount of space downstairs, including darkroom, workshop, storage, garage. Deck overlooks enormous gar
den.

# FEATURED AGENT - MICHAEL LAUTH



Red Oak Realty is pleased to Red Oak Realty is pleased to announce its recent association with Michael Lauth. Michael and his wife, Sheryl, live in the Oakland hills. He received his education at St. Theresa's Grammar School, Bishop O'Dowd High School and UC Berkeley. He has ten years of marketing and sales experience during which time he developed his providing quality service and accountability to

philosophy of providing quality service and accountability to clients. Michael can be reached at (510) 527-3387, ext. 174.

# BY APPOINTMENT

Charming cottage, spacious garage wkshp/studio. ....

DERRELET		
Spacious home w/gourmet kitchen. 3bd/2.5ba	\$435,0	000
A rare offering - traditional. 3++bd/2.5ba	.\$399,	000
Sharp 3bd/2ba with stunning view	.\$370,	000
Contractor's special!! Lovely creekside setting	.\$225,	000
Fab location! Legal duplex w/large yard. As is	.\$210,	000
New condos - 2bd/1ba with privacy, deck, security	.\$199.	000
2bd upper unit. Working on condo conversion	.\$185.	000
Price slashed. New 3bd. Views	.\$155.	000
New condos - sunny view unit with 1bd/1ba	.\$149,	000
Income property. 4 unit building	.\$140.	000
Price slashed! New 2bd	.\$139,	000
Offices, 3 loc, with spaces from 650-1650 sq. ft	s	850

# EL CERRITO

22 02111110
3+bd, 3ba paradise. Flex. floor plan w/lg guest ste\$299,000
Mac style 2+bd, 3 levels, great backyard, very clean\$233,000
Lovely home. Peek view. Renovated kit/bath\$222,000
Cozy bungalow. 3bd/1ba c/cottage, large yard\$169,000
Great 3bd corner property home. Conv. location \$124,950

# **EMERYVILLE**

2+br, 2ba indescribably exquisite! Maple floors. .... Live/work lofts. No payments for 3 mos. .....

# KENSINGTON

# MONTCLAIR

4 units w/great pot. for owner occ. Live/work Large 2+bd w/poss. in-law. Fabulous starter

# POINT RICHMOND

1+bd/1ba condo with stunning panoramic

\$4,000 moves you in. 2bd/1ba, large yard, deck Great starter home. 2bd, 2ba, fenced yard. ...

# RICHMOND ANNEX

Great location. 2bd up, + addl. space. Frml dining. Sunny, versatile 3+bd/lba. Sparkling! Great price! 3+bd/1.5ba.

# RICHMOND N&E

Craftsman 4bd, 2ba home with large workshop.

New 3bd/2.5ba custom home. Master suite, view. New custom built home. 3bd/3ba. Lowest price ever. Canyon side 2+bd townhome. Super 3bd/2.5ba townhome! New carpet/p

# LOTS, LAND AND COMMERCIAL

R. View. Magnificent 5.79 acre parcel Oakland. Level lot. Exc. area! Seller may carry Great busy hair salon. Motivated seller. Women's clothing store, great N. Berkeley locati

# Buyers should allow enough ash to cover closing costs

EALITY by TOM HOLSTLAW

HT PROPERTY - RIGHT PRICE - RIGHT HERE FEATURED ALAMEDA INVESTMENTS

This space reserved for your home.

coln - Original Victorian fixer-upper. 3+ BD, 1+ BA \$775,000
epoint #112-1BD, 1 BA condo at The Shores' \$92,500
1-1 level Hentegor 2-80, 2 BA, 2-ear garage. REDUCED \$227,500
- 3 units 4 BD. 180-180-180. 18A REDUCED \$335,000

Home 522-6672 MSG. 769-SOLD

TOM HOLSTLAW

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KENSINGTON

OAKLAND

DON CIRCLE....\$599,000 MABR, 3BA two-story home on large view lot with an art-deco garden. Sonal central hall plan and cul-de-sac location.

PIEDMONT

ffice 748-1773

A BLAKE STREET

enough cash for the down payment and closing costs. In addition, many lenders require that you have enough cash reserves to cover a few months of house payments. Borrowing money at the last minute to cover your cash requirements may not work because lenders usually want you to show that you've had the cash you need in your own bank account for several months.

There are ways to reduce the

account for several months.

There are ways to reduce the amount of your closing costs. The loan origination fee, also called "points," is usually the most expensive buyer closing cost. One point is equal to one percent of the loan amount. If you're buying a \$250,000 home with a 90 percent loan, your loan amount will be \$225,000. If the lender is charging two points, this will cost you \$4,500. A nopoint loan will have a higher interestrate, but the closing cost savings is significant.

Another way to reduce the amount of your closing costs is to close your home purchase late in the month. At closing, the lender will collect enough money from



Real Estate

# ■ DIAN HYMER

monthly interest payment will be \$2000. If you close escrow on the fifth day of the month, the lender will collect interest for 25 days, or approximately \$1,666. If you close on the 25th day of the month, the interest you'll owe the lender at closing will only be about \$333.

Most lenders will allow the seller to credit the buyer an amount of money at closing to cover some or all of the buyer's nonrecurring clos-

all of the buyer's nonrecurring clos-

ing costs.

Nonrecurring closing costs are paid by 'the buyer on a one-time only basis. These fees include such things as points, transfer taxes and title insurance. Recurring costs are paid on a regular basis and include such things as interest nayments on such things as interest payments on your loan, hazard insurance and

your loan, hazard insurance and PMI.

A seller credit will reduce the amount of your closing costs. It also reduces the amount of cash proceeds the sellers realize from the sale of their house. Asking the sellers for a credit amounts to asking them to accept a lower price. This might be acceptable unless you have competition from other buyers. If there are multiple offers, an offer that includes a request for a cash credit from the sellers might not be good enough.

One way to offset a seller credit is to increase the purchase price. Instead of offering the seller the \$275,000 he's asking for his home, you offer \$280,000 with a \$5,000 credit from the seller to you at closing. In order for this to work, the lender will have to appraise the property at the \$280,000 price. If the local comparable sales don't justify this higher price, the seller might be nervous about boosting the sale

local comparable sales don'f justify this higher price, the seller might be nervous about boosting the sale price above a realistic market value. Sometimes the only alternative is to wait to buy a house until you have enough cash for closing costs, particularly if you're trying to buy in a hot market

in a hot market.

If, on the other hand, you're buying in an area where there is a surplus of inventory, particularly of new homes, you can usually find a seller or builder who'll be willing to pay for some of your closing costs.

Dian Hymer is a broker associate with Coldwell Banker in the Montclair/Piedmont office and author of "Buying and Selling a Home in California" (Chronicle Books,

# Equity-Sharing Co. helps you realize dream

The George McDonald family of San Jose didn't buy a house in 1993 when interest rates were low. Now as 1994 comes to a close, the

Now as 1994 comes to a close, the constant increase in mortgage rates has put home ownership out of this family's reach.

Throughout this year, the Federal Reserve has attempted to curb future inflation by increasing interest rates. Now families like the McDonalds' cannot afford a home because the monthly mortgage

because the monthly mortgage payments are too high for them to qualify.

Also, the other problem that the McDonalds face is that home prices have gone up faster than their ability to save the down pay-

ment.

The Equity-Sharing Co. has announced a program that will enable the McDonalds and thousands of other families with "very little money" but a "bright future" to buy their dream home.

The program was developed by its president, Jerry Hunt, a decade ago to assist families in the purchase of a home in high interest rate times.

Now with the dramatic increase in mortgage rates and appreciation in home prices, Equity-Sharing is the answer for a large number of potential home buyers.

The program combines a potential home buyer with an investor in the purchase of a single family home.

By sharing some of the equity

By sharing some of the equity ownership in the home with an investor, the home buyer only

# Home Improvement junkies find what you need at BEC

The Building Education Center, a non-profit educational organization, has scores of classes scheduled for the new year for those eager to improve their homes by doing it themselves.

Starting on Wednesday, Jan. 18, 7 - 9 p.m., a free open house will focus on "How To Save Money When Building or Remodeling Your Home."

Other scheduled classes for 1995 include "Owner Contracting: Project Management," the ever-popular "Earthquake Retrofitting," and, for those who'd like to know more than how to change

and, for those who d like to know more than how to change a light bulb, a "Hands-On Electrical Workshop."

To find out about these and other classes, call 525-7610. The Center is located at 812 Page St., Berkeley.

needs closing costs, usually 3 per-cent to 5 percent, and the ability to qualify for a mortgage loan with payments reduced by as much as 40 percent.

The ownership shared between them varies depending on the home buyer's cash needs, but usually the sharing is 65 percent home buyer and 35 percent investor.

According to Hunt, "this time-tested mortgage program is be-

Home Buyer — The Equity-Sharing program provides the funds necessary for the down pay-ment and assists in subsidizing the monthly mortgage payments by up to 40 percent.

ership for many families the re maining part of the '90s.

# Events

Holiday attractions at Oak nd's Camron-Stanford House and heirloom ornaments and a Victoriana gift shop. Open Wednesdays 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Sundays, 1 - 5 p.m., through Dec. 31. \$2. Call 836-1976.

Starting in January: Classes on the Mac at St. Paul's Community Program, 116 Montecito Ave., near Lake Merritt in Oakland, include Mac Basics, WordPerfect. Clarisworks, Educational Software for Children, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Pagemaker, Filemaker Pro, Internet, Share Ware and Freeware, Excel, Microsoft Office, Quicken and Quark Xpress. Cost \$25 - \$70. Call for schedule, 465-2025.

The Building Education Center, 812 Page St., Berkeley, hosts a free open house on How to Save Money When Building or Remodeling Your Home on Wednesday, Jan. 18, 7 - 9 p.m. Call 525-7610 for information.

A Basic Compost Workshop, sponsored by Alameda County Waste Management Authority, is Saturday, Jan. 21, 10 a.m. - noon (rain or shine) at Oakland Garden, Lakeside Park, adjacent to the Garden Center Building, Bellevue Ave., near Lake Merritt. This hands-on class teaches how to compost yard and kitchen waste; learn to transform trash into free, nutritious fertilizer. Free. Call the 'Rotline' at 635-6275 for more information.

The Building Education Cen-ter, 812 Page St., Berkeley, holds three classes on Saturday, Jan. 21 Owner Contracting: Project

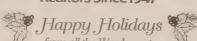
Management, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m \$75; Earthquake Retrofitting 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., \$75; and Hands On Electrical Workshop, 9:3 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Sat. & Sun \$180. Call 525-7610.

The Building Education Center, 812 Page St., Berkeley, starts a 17-session Homeowner's Essential Course: How to Build. Remodel & Maintain You. Home, on Wednesday, Jan. 25, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. \$395. Call 525-7610 to register.

schedule of classes on pruning call 436-2413. Other upcoming classes in horticulture include "Introduction to Bonsai," "The Business of Landscaping," "Floral Design Classes," and "Irrigation Lab." A field trip to Kauaf, Hawaii is scheduled for April (call 800 624-6623 for information)

Bring your sick plants to a Free Plant Disease Clinic, first Saturday of each month, 9 a.m. - noon at UC Botanical Gardens. Centennial Dr., Strawberry Canyon Berkeley. UC plant pathologist Dr Robert Raabe will identify the problems and prescribe treatmen for common pests and diseases Call 642-3343 for more information.







from all the Ward agents:

Melanie Burtt Claire Cunningham Wendy Netick Nancy Platford

Gaule Tantau Pau Wexler Barbara Wilcox Miriam Wilson

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..\$599,000

Fred Mitchell

2 EUCALYPTUS ROAD

2626 WARRING STREET

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# Area Home Sales

## ALAMEDA

ALAMEDA

2917 Calhoun St. - \$252,000
54 Coleport Landing - \$420,000
2621 Edison Ct. - \$207,500
2847 Encinal Ave. - \$210,000
2924 Fernside Blvd. - \$310,000
539 Kings Rd. - \$275,000
2137 Otis Dr. #211 - \$96,000
1131 Park Ave. - \$102,500
61 Purcell Dr. - \$300,000
1310 Santa Clara Ave. - \$134,500
3167 Santa Cruz Lane - \$191,000
1217 St. Charles St. - \$490,000
324 Tideway Dr. - \$290,000
1026 Trellis Lane - \$200,000
1210 Union St. - \$395,000

## ALBANY

1067 Neilson St. - \$297,000

## BERKELEY

1347 66th St. - \$146,000 1629 Addison St. - \$180,000 210 Alvarado Rd. - \$120,000 988 Creston Rd. - \$362,000 5 El Portal Ct. - \$240,000 923 Fresno Ave. - \$284,000 1488 Grizzly Peak Blvd. - \$400,000 2960 Hillegass Ave. - \$306,500 2828 Kelsey St. - \$369,000 861 Santa Barbara Rd. - \$399,000 1684 Tacoma Ave. - \$216,000 1920 Vine St. - \$255,000 2401 Warring St. - \$345,000 1347 66th St. - \$146,000

# EL CERRITO

1600 Lexington Ave. - \$122,000 1715 Liberty St. #2 - \$150,000 1604 Roger Ct. - \$272,500

# EL SOBRANTE

3966 El Monte Rd. - \$120,000 7070 Monte Verde Rd. -\$292,000

# **EMERYVILLE**

6 Captain Dr. #E329 - \$77,500 6363 Christie Ave. #1823 -\$121,000

4 Commodore Dr. #522 - \$95,500 7 Commodore Dr. #A354 -\$80,000

# KENSINGTON

312 Coventry Rd. - \$243,500

# OAKLAND

26 Alida Ct. - \$278,500 6515 Ascot Dr. - \$315,000 1779 Brandon St. - \$219,500 15050 Broadway Terr. - \$785,000 6422 Broadway Terr. - \$309,000 3009 Brook St. - \$165,000 2539 Castello St. - \$197,000 459 Cavour St. - \$186,000 6147 Chelton Dr. - \$510,000 5028 Crystalridge Ct. - \$399,000 5119 Desmond St. - \$220,000 2138 East 27th St. - \$195,000 329 Florence Ave. - \$295,000 329 Florence Ave. - \$295,000 3020 Florida St. - \$141,000 3056 Florida St. - \$285,000 2428 Frances St. - \$141,000

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801 Franklin St. #1004 - \$183,000

801 Franklin St. #1004 - \$183,000
5708 Grisborne Ave. - \$325,000
322 Hanover Ave. #303 - \$129,500
8193 Hansom Dr. - \$282,000
6443 Hillegass Ave. - \$295,000
2821 Humboldt Ave. - \$380,000
6130 Laird Ave. - \$150,000
5306 Lawton Ave. - \$275,000
4721 Lincoln Ave. - \$259,000
3917 Lyman Rd. - \$268,500
2901 MacArthur Blvd. #108 - \$100,500
6031 Mauritania Ave. - \$162,000
3717 McClelland St. - \$134,500
6018 Monroe Ave. - \$268,000
3006 Morcom Ave. - \$157,000
375 Oakland Ave. - \$500,000
350 Perkins St. #206 - \$108,000
4244 Ridgemont Ct. - \$429,000
1107 Rose Ave. - \$314,000
5371 Shafter Ave. - \$239,000
6791 Sims Dr. - \$256,000
6934 Simson St. - \$149,000
2335 Stockbridge Dr. - \$327,500
9228 Sunnyside St. - \$140,000
2300 Tiffin Rd. - \$195,000
10562 Topanga Dr. - \$130,000
1927 Vicksburg Ave. - \$114,500
1586 Vista St. - \$244,000
580 Wesley Ave. - \$230,000
83 Yosemite Ave. - \$175,000

# PIEDMONT

149 St. James Dr. - \$535,000

# SALES STATS BY CITY

# ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 15 LOWEST PRICE: \$96,000 HIGHEST PRICE: \$490,000 AVERAGE PRICE: \$258,233

# ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 1 LOWEST PRICE: \$297,000 HIGHEST PRICE: \$297,000 AVERAGE PRICE: \$297,000

# BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 13

# President

Left: Flo Albonico proudly exhibits her Affiliate of the Year award. Below: New BAR chief executive officer Frank Battino chats with new BAR president Eugene Bergman. Far below: BAR past president Anita Thede was honored as Realtor of the Year. The award was presented by new secretary-treasurer Don Clark.

## Continued from page 24

communications among BAR members, wider participation in BAR committee activities, bet-ter cooperation among all Bay Area Realtor associations and a sharper focus on BAR's clients'

needs.

Dennis Evanoska ciate broker with Rea

—O'Neal and Associ freelance writer. You him at 450-0550.





# The Real Estate Section welcomes your letters and inqu

Send them to: Maggie Sharpe, editor, 5707 Redwood Road, Oakland, Ca. 94619 or FAX them to (5

# This list was recorded for publication by Hills Newspapers by REM Reports, Inc. of Walnut Creek which obtains monthly records from the county recorder's office. Neither company guarantees accuracy or completeness of the information. Sales prices are estimated based upon applicable county transfer taxes. City planners accept credit cards

The City of Oakland Office of Planning and Building (OP&B) has announced that Visa and MasterCard credit cards are now accepted for all payment transactions

"This is just one more step in our continuing efforts to provide our customers fast and efficient service," said Teri Robinson, OP&B's administrative services

By the end of the year, the Office of Planning and Building will have issued approximately 6,000 building permits (new construction and alterations) and an additional 12,000 permits for plumbing mechanical electrical zone. ing, mechanical, electrical, zon

ing, and engineering permits; with an estimated total value of \$7.8

LOWEST PRICE: \$120,000 HIGHEST PRICE: \$400,000 AVERAGE PRICE: \$278,653

TOTAL SALES: 3

EL CERRITO

LOWEST PRICE: \$122,000 HIGHEST PRICE: \$272,500 AVERAGE PRICE: \$181,500

EL SOBRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 2 LOWEST PRICE: \$120,000 HIGHEST PRICE: \$292,000 AVERAGE PRICE: \$206,000

**EMERYVILLE** 

TOTAL SALES: 4 LOWEST PRICE: \$77,500 HIGHEST PRICE: \$121,000 AVERAGE PRICE: \$93,500

TOTAL SALES: 1 LOWEST PRICE: \$243,500 HIGHEST PRICE: \$243,500 AVERAGE PRICE: \$243,500

LOWEST PRICE: \$100,500 HIGHEST PRICE: \$785,000 AVERAGE PRICE: \$251,326

PIEDMONT

TOTAL SALES: 1 LOWEST PRICE: \$535,000 HIGHEST PRICE: \$535,000 AVERAGE PRICE: \$535,000

TOTAL SALES: 46

OAKLAND

The department also expects to institute a "Permits By Fax" venture in mid-summer 1995.

"We're doing what we can to move our operations into the 21st century," Robinson added, "while at the same time offering old-fashioned courtesy and personal ser-vice to our clientele."

In December, the Office of Planning and Building will streamline and consolidate its op-erations onto three floors of 1330

Currently, the department is spread over five floors.



7502 FAIRMOUNT AVE, EL CERRITO 527-9111



Best Wishes for a pleasant Holiday Season!

Andrew Nathan Cynthia Gray Diana Mendler Herman Sun Marion Henon Тетті Ниапд

在的种類性類性

14

数据数据数

Barbara Kaplan Darrell Hoh Don Peters Kathy Burt Moya Ma Steve Schneider

Todd Hodson

Betsy Mueller Dee Plunkett Doris Alexander Kirk Corr Nick Tang Sugi Salye

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HOME MORTGAGE LOANS

# CLASSIFIEDS

# Index ley\* ..... rrito & North\* γville\* .... nyville\* orinda & East\* and/Piedmont & So.\* COMMERCIAL RENTALS erts/Service\* ANNOUNCEMENTS ley & North Emeryville Oakland/Pledmont & So. REAL ESTATE SALES & SE Real Estate General Real Estate Loans\* Lofts & Live-Work Space Real Estate Lots Real Estate Services\* Real Estate Wanted\* HOMES FOR SALE Alameda eryville lorinda & East land/Piedmont & So. APTS./CONDOS FOR SALE Albany/Kensington Berkeley El Cerrito & North Emeryville d/Piedmont & So. E/COMMERCIAL FOR SALE meryville akland/Piedmont & So SERVICE: chitecture & Design\* pard & Care\*

la & East

4 or more Bed. to & North e .... la & East .... Biedmont & So. 1 Bed Beauty & Fitness\* Services\* cleaning/Janitorial S sitting\*



_					
rds	1 week	2 weeks	3 weeks	4 weeks	ea. additiona week*
15	\$20 00	\$39 00	\$ 57 00	\$ 70 00	\$17 50
20	\$24.25	\$47 50	\$ 69 75	\$ 86 00	\$21 50
25	\$28 50	\$56 00	\$ 82 50	\$102 00	\$25 50
80	\$32 75	\$64 50	\$ 95 25	\$118 00	\$29 50
35	\$37 00	\$73 00	\$108 00	\$134 00	\$33 50
40	\$41 25	\$81 50	\$120 75	\$150 00	\$37 50
15	\$45.50	\$90 00	\$133 50	\$166 00	\$41.50
0	\$49 75	\$98 50	\$146 25	\$182 00	\$45 50
add I	onal				
wds	\$ 4.25	\$ 8.50	\$ 12.75	\$ 16 00	\$ 400
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paint	Tuesday/Thursday	Deadline:	11 00 am Monday
	Friday	Deadline:	11 00 a m Thursday
Ads.	Tuesday/Thursday	Deadline	4 00 pm Friday
	Friday	Deadline	11 00 am Thursda
NES .	Tuesday/Thursday	Deadline	11 00 a m Friday
3 day	weekends)	Deadline	11 00 am Friday

the number you are given at the time you place your cancellation of der. No will be made without a cancellation number. REFUNDS, CREDITS AND TS WILL BE MADE FOR REMAINING FULL WEEKS ONLY.

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	date			
ı	**abbreviations)			

# Automotive

## 101 Autos

991 Aerostar, green, good condition, iles, AM/FM cassette, air conditioning,

## **Announcements**

# 201 Announcements

PEKINGESE, older male, neglected but very sweet, likes kids and cats. Owner or adopt.

# Education

SMILES DAY SCHOOL

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The deadline for Tuesday & Thursday, December 27 & 29 is Friday, December 23 at 11 a.m.

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ND Maple drop leaf table, \$200. 5 foo nean desk/ chair, \$100. Drafting table a. 521-6202

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hite bed frame, matching headboard, mattress, comforter set, 3 years,

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# Musical Instruments

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Oakland

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# **Commercial Rentals**

# 801 Real Estate - General

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ette, CA 94549. eby registered by the following Owner: tric T Brady, 14 Mertha Rd., Orinda, C/

1995.

The No. 94-738

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The Name of the Businesses:

TJ International imports 2 Contemporary forms of the Businesses:

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Ludy Martha Pintacel, 60 San Vincente Ct., reville, CA 94-25.

Ludy Martha Pintacel, 60 San Vincente Ct., reville, CA 94-25.

San Vincente Ct., review of the Name of the Name

ort 94804.

Breby registered by the following Owner:

Ilinor Marie Tennyson, 507 Commodore Drive

Timond, CA 94804.

by registered by the following Owner: cel Oliver, 116 Wheler Cir., Hercules, Ci

z, 1985.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT.
File No. 94-7:81
File No. 94-81
File No. 94

# **Public Notices**

Name of the Business: hent & Leasing Company, 1415 Ste. 103, Walnut Creek, CA

registered by the following Owner: D. Trujillo, 5204 Valmar Dr., Concord,

interes is conducted by an individual, intrinse filed with County Clerk of Concurry on October 24, 1994.

DIS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 94-673

The Name of the Business: Lees, 1510 Garnay Circle, Oakley, CA

registered by the following Owner:

US BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 94-7130 The Name of the Business: tware, 117 ipswich Way, Pleasant Hill,

gistered by the following Owners:
Velvin Murphy, 117 Ipswich Way,
II, CA 94523.
III, CA 94523.
III, CA 94523.
III, CA 94523.
Incess is conducted by Individuals

s filed with County Clerk of Con-on November 21, 1994. ember 1, 8, 15, 22, 1994.

is conducted by Individu

US BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 94-7188 The Name of the Business: orise, 1712 Wesley Avenue, El Cerrito,

ed by the following Owner: ou, 1712 Wesley Avenue, El Cer

conducted by an Individual. illed with County Clerk of Con-n November 18, 1994. iber 1, 8, 15, 22, 1994.

SUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-7274
File No. 94-7274
Neame of the Business:
Juest RV Parts and Supplies 2) Camp
yoke and Repains, 15606 Sen Pablo
chmond, CA 94805,
segistered by the following Owner:
Marie Perkovich, 41 Seaguil Drive,
76.94874, 41

tereury, and the state of the s

ne of the Business: ns Enterprises, 3909 MacDon nond, CA 94805. d by the following Owners: ms, 1241 Fairway Drive, Rich Williams, 65 Edgewater Place

conducted by a General Part-

tered by the following Owner: 1, 302 Rosemarie Place, Bay Point,

tered by the following Owner: a, 895 Holly Hill Dr., Walnut Creek,

S BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 94-7217 Name of the Business: 1835 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, CA

ed by the following Owner: rlors Inc., El Cerrito, CA 94530. s conducted by a Corporation. filled with County Clerk of Con on November 21, 1994. mber 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

SINESS NAME STATEMENT le No. 94-7218 une of the Business: 11835 San Pablo Ave., El Cer

nd by the following Owner: lors Inc., El Cerrito, CA 94530. conducted by a Corporation. filled with County Clerk of Cor in November 21, 1994. inber 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

NESS NAME STATEMENT No. 94-7070 ne of the Business; loss, 330 North Civic Drive , CA 94596.

NESS NAME STATEMEN No. 94-7182

## Public Notices

dor Ruvalcaba, 895 Coral Dr., Rodeo, CA

as is conducted by individ

583, bby registered by the following Owners: ron Kay Morrison, 319 Santa Cruz PI., San n, CA 94583, mmya Carol Weltl, 3 Heartland Court, lie, CA 94506. s business is conducted by a General Part-ip.

onent was filed with County Clerk of Con-ta County on November 7, 1994. urnal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

CTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 94-6904 The Name of the Business: a Engineering Services, 1848 Newell Ave., but Creek, CA 94595.

reby registered by the following Owner: ss Esfandieri, 1848 Newell Ave., Walnut k, CA 94595.

The Journal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-7040
The Name of the Business:
Thristmas Luminited, 345 Live Oak Drive,
Javrille, CA, German Carlon,
Francis Carlon,
Francis CA, 1940
James E, Pictimorre, 343 Live Oak Drive,
James Ley Gridmorre, 1945 Live Oak Drive,
James Ley Gridmorre, 1945 Live Oak Drive,
James Ley Gridmorre,

Ineucotinal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
Filo No. 94-7036
The Name of the Business:
N.B. Control, 1469 Crestellide Dr., Sulte
1043, Waltuchor, 1469 Crestellide Dr., Sulte
1044, Walnut Creek, CA 94596
This business is conducted by an Individual
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Control
Tac Costs County on November 9, 1994.
The Journal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

TIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 94-7168 The Names of the Businesses: ure Communications 2) Jeffdim Associates, in Ramon Valley Blvd., Suite 208, Danville,

nereby registered by the following Owner: It Lane, 119 Green Brook Ct., Danville CA

susiness is conducted by an individual, ment was filed with County Clerk of Con-a County on November 17, 1994, rnal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

ournal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

TITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 04-7079
File

ghal, PRC. s bullness is conducted by Co-partners, tement was filed with County Clerk of Consta County on November 14, 1994, burnal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

The Journal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-707.
The Name of the Business:
interActive Systems, 950 Country Run Drive, MarInaz, CA 9453.
Ana Marie Avila, 150 Country Run Drive, MarInaz, CA 9453.
Jesus Aftura III, 1128 Langlie Way, Rodeo, CA
49572.

is business is conducted by Co-Partners, atement was filed with County Clerk of Con-osta County on November 10, 1994, Journal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

hereby registered by the following Owner: Alison K Berry, 41 Wildwood Place, El Cerrito,

CA 94530.

This business is conducted by an Individual.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 28, 1994.

The Journal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 94-8999 The Name of the Business: ludge and Some Towing Service, 31 Oxford Out, Pittsburg, CA 94565. hereby registered by the following Owner: Lucian Judge, 31 Oxford Court, Pit

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 94-7000 The Name of the Business: Touch of Romance, 20 Jessen Court, Kensing-on, CA 94707.

hereby registered by the following Owner: Shawna Lynn Davis, 20 Jessen Court, Kensing n, CA 94707.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 94-7324 The Name of the Business: Ferra Fine Art, 115 Purdue Ave., Kensington, CA

is hereby registered by the following Owner: Lisa M. Wagner, 115 Purdue Ave., Kensington CA 94708.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 94-7281 The Name of the Business: Creative Digital, 1450 Creekside, #86, Walnut Treek, CA 94596. Is hereby registered by the following Owners: William Malo, 3620 Walnut Street, #C, Lefayet-

A 34549. Li Rothaut, 1450 Creekside, Walnut Creek, 4596. Is business is conducted by a General Part-lin.

ment was filed with County Clerk of Con-ta County on November 23, 1994. urnal December 15, 22, 29, January 5,

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 94-7256 The Name of the Business: friam Environmental, 361 Centre Ct., Alameda,

A 94502. hereby registered by the following Owner: Charles Thomas Headlee, 361 Centre Ct., ameda, CA 94502.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 94-7235

File No. 94-7235

The Name of the Business:

The Name of the Business:

The Care Tyze Beywood Drive,

poncord, CA 94521,

hereby registered by the following Owner:

Deboorah Ann Beegan, 1722 Beywood Drive,

This business is conducted by an Individual

Statement was flied with Courtly Clerk of Con
Costa Courtly on November 22, 1994,

e Journal December 15, 22, 29, January 5,

e Journal December 15, 22, 29, January 5,

## Public Notices

File No. 39-67-74.
The Name of the Business:
#8 Sports Tevern, 103 B Town & Country
arrille, CA 94526.
aby registered by the following Owner:
es D Quick, 35 Sen Carlo Ct., Denville, CA.

The Journal December 15, 22, 28, sarrilley 6, 964.

FICTITOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No, 94-725.

The Name of the Business: WA Enterprises Specially Wholesse, 2800 Gen-ylown Drive #83, Antioch, CA 94509.

In ereby registered by the following Owner: Kattir Francis Arriold, 2800 Genfrytown Drive This business is conducted by an Individual Statement was filed with County Clerk of Conra Costa County on November 26, 1994.

The Journal December 15, 22, 29, January 5, 994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-7414
File No. 104-74
File

1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 94-7505
FINE No. 94-7505
West/ Calaway & Co., 367 C/ric Dr., Ste. 8B, Pleasant Hill, C4 94523.
Is hereby registered by the following Owners: West/ Calaway Morfil, & Corporation incorporated in State of California.
This business is conducted by a Corporation. Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contract Cala County on December 15, 22, 29, January 5, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 94-7159 The No. 94-7159 Tarl's Auto Repair & Detailing. 32 9th St., Rich-tond, CA 9490.

is business is conducted by Individuals-and and Wife, itement was filed with County Clark of Co.

DATE: 12/02/94 OBERT E. WEISS INCORPORATED AS TRUST 920 VILLAGE OAKS DRI P.O. BOX 32 COVINA, CA 91722 (818)967-43 BY: CRIS A. KLINGERM

TOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 94-7258 The Name of the Business: Reelly, 10749 San Pablo Avenue #200 x 1003), El Cerrito, CA 94530. y registered by the following Owner: Malboubl, 1822 Arlington Bivd., El Cerrito, 0.

s is conducted by an Individual. as filed with County Clerk of Con-ty on November 22, 1994. comber 15, 22, 29, 1994, January

# Public Notices

hereby registered by the following Owner: Fera J Villa, 3364 Betty Lane, Pittsburg, CA 1565.

in okurnal December 15, 22, 29, 1994, Jenuary, 1996, 1

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 94-7250
The Name of the Business: heathut. Properties, 855 Santa. Maria. Way, treyets, CA 945-92.

Lafayetts, CA 94549.
Is hereby registered by the following Owners:
John Pedroni, 855 Santa Maria Way, Lafaye
CA 94549.
Tanya Pedroni, 855 Santa Maria Way, Lafa

A 94549.
sorge Avanessian, 45 Kammerer Ct., Hillsugh, CA 94010.
tificia Avanessian, 45 Kammerer Ct., Hillsugh, CA 94010.
is business is conducted by a General Parthilp.

5, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 94-7994.

The Name of the Business: Inspection Services Company, 1998 Wardow Lane, Concord, CA 94521.

Is hereby registered by the following Owner: In the Concord, CA 94521.

This business is conducted by an Individual Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Coata County on December 1, 1994.

The Journal December 22, 29, 1994, January 5, 12, 1995.

2, 1996.
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-7117
The Name of the Businesses:
1) Rossmoor Manor Convivelement Hospital & 2)
Laurdian Foundation, 1224 Rossmoor Parkway,
4anut Creek, Ca, 44595.
Le hereby registered by the following Owners:
6CHG, Inc., Incorporated in the State of CallGCHG, Inc., Incorporated in the State of Call-

business is conducted by a Corporation. ement was filed with County Cierk of Con-nta County on November 15, 1994. surnal December 22, 29, 1994, January 5,

2, 1995.
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-71 15
The Name of the Businesses;
Thos Valley Phermacy & 2, Guardian Foundan, 1808 Tice Valley Blvd., Walnut Creek, CA
4595.

94595.
Are hereby registered by the following Owners:
GCHG, Inc., Incorporated in the State of California.
This business is conducted by a Corporation.
Statement was filled with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 15, 1994.
The Journal December 22, 29, 1994, January 5, 12, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 94-7116 The Name of the Businesses: Ygnacio Convalescent Hospital & 2) Guardian sundation, 1449 Ygnacio Valley Road, Walnut neek CA 94500

1) Ygnacio CarvesCarvesCoundation 1,449 Ygnacio Visitey InCroek, CA 64598.
Are hereby registered by the following Owners:
GCHG, Inc., Incorporated in the State of California.
This business is conducted by a Corporation.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 15, 1994.
The Journal December 22, 29, 1994, January 5,

## **Public Notices**

Bayberry Convalencent Hospital & 2) Guardian bundation, 1800 Adobe Street, Concord, CA reby registered by the following Owners: IG, Inc., Incorporated in the State of Cali

File No. 194-730-The Name of the Businesses: tra Costa Properties, Inc. 2) Contra Costa ties 3) Contra Costa Realty, 950 Detroit , 9, Sulfe #2A, Concord, CA 94518. reby registered by the following Owners: tra Costa Properties, Inc., Concord, CA

business is conducted by a Corporation. rement was filed with County Clerk of Con-sta County on November 28, 1994. Junel December 22, 29, 1994, January 5,

port, 950 Detroit Avenue, LA 94518. Are hereby registered by the following Owner: Fred R. Doster, 1157 Via Doble, Concord, CA

Fred H. Doster, 1157 VIB Doble, Concord, CA 44521. This business is conducted by an individual. Statement was filed with County Clerk of Con-ra Costa County on November 28, 1994, January 5, 12, 1995.

The Name of the Business:

BA: Family Discourt Shopping Citib, 3717 Mt.

Bablo BNd, Sulte 101, Laffyetts, CA 94549.

Thereby registed by the following Owners:

Consumer's Television Network, Inc., 3717 Mt.

Bablo BNd, Site 101, Laffyetts, CA 94549.

Stationist was filled with 50-2.

Stationist was filled with 50-2.

d in Confra Costa (county or rouny or, cardo Espinosa, 3670 Cleyton Ad., #204, d, CA 94521.
arc Samer, 190 Player Ct., #12, Weinut CA 94598, business was conducted by: a General elin.

COUNTRYWIDE TITLE CORP.
ATTORNEYS EQUITY NATIONAL CORPORATION AS
AGENT
5222793.

990. Bizabeth Duke, \$232 Panama Avenue, Rich ond, CA 94804. This business was conducted by an Individual, Signed: Bizabeth Duke. This statement was filled with the County Cler Courte Costa County on December 14, 1994. The Journal December 22, 29, 1904, Januare 12, 1995.

1901.
This business is conducted by an Individual.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Con1 Costa County on November 28, 1994.
1995.
1996.

illowing person has abendoned the use of titious business name U.S. Mortgage Ser-5232 Panama Avenue, Richmond, CA

American Heart Association

# Sweet treats at Chocolate Paradise

lend me your ears.

If you haven't already heard, there's a new store on Piedmont Avenue that's a chocolate lovers' heaven. "Chocolate Paradise" makes candies the old-fashioned way from traditional European reci-



pes using the finest natural ingredi-

ents.

Try their Australian glace fruits hand-dipped in dark, milk or creamy white chocolate; or treat yourself to fresh Californian nuts or Hawaiian macadamias smothered in the smoothest chocolate you'll ever taste.

My special favorite was the chocolate-covered Chinese ginger which has a spicy but not overwhelming flavor.

This isn't the first sweet venture.

a spicy but not overwhelming flavor.

This isn't the first sweet venture for Chocolate Paradise owner Richard Wohl. He and his brother opened Sweet Temptations in North Berkeley in 1981. They subsequently sold the store and Richard spent the next few years travelling the world.

One four-year stop found him teaching English as a second language in Thailand. It was in one of those ESL classes that he met his wife Ladda Wongpanassak, co-owner of Chocolate Paradise.

Now if you're like me — still care.

late Paradise.

Now if you're like me — still carrying around your Christmas list — then there's gifts aplenty at Chocolate Paradise. The tiny chocolate Santas,

Focus

Business

bells and balls are perfect stocking stuffers; or you can put together a mouth-watering selection of hand-dipped fruits and nuts that'll bring a smile to the lips of any chocolate

a smile to use appearance of the fan.

There's also an array of non-edible gifts: cuddly stuffed animals, chocolate-'flavored' candles; and some beautiful hand-embroidered Christmas stockings from Peking at very reasonable prices.
Chocolate Paradise is located at the product of the product

Chocolate Paradise is located at 3945 Piedmont Ave., formerly home to Cocolat (there's no relation except perhaps in the fine quality of the chocolate). They're open 10 a.m. - 10 p.m., seven days a state of the chocolate of the 10 a.m. - 10 p.m., seve week. Or call 652-6161.

For information on the Business Fogus, call Advertising at 339-4030.

MAGGIE SHARPE

# **New session** at Albany **Adult School**

Day and evening classes are scheduled to begin at Albany Adult School on Saturday, Jan. 7. Nearly 150 courses will be offered during the 10-week session, including art, drawing, music, body conditioning, health and safety, six gourmet cooking workshops, business, English as a Second Language, six foreign languages, MacIntosh and IBM computer courses.

Those wishing to register early may do so at the day office, 655 Key Route Blvd., from 8 a.m. to noon or 1 to 4 p.m. Mail registration is accepted if received by Jan. 6. For more information telephone 559-6580.

more information telephone 559-6580.

Adults with specialized interests may enroll in: watercolors, sign language, financial planning, fiction writing, guitar, education for childbirth, darkroom photography, law for everyday living, furniture refinishing, birding, boating and seamanship, kitchen-bath remodeling, t'ai chi ch'uan, community chorus, Bay Area plants-gardens, investments, and Traffic Violator classes.

A partial listing of new courses includes: Publication Essentials, Creative T-Shirt Design, Income Taxes for Small Businesses, and Comedy-Drama Workshop.

Class schedules and course summaries are available at all local libraries from Berkeley to Pinole and all Albany schools.

# Classes at Vista set to begin

Vista Community College in Berkeley begins its spring 1995 semester Jan. 17. Enrollment is open now through Friday, Jan. 27. There is no in-class registration. Registration times are Mondays and Tuesdays, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and 4:30-7 p.m.; and Wednesdays through Fridays, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Enrollment for midsemester classes is open up until the day they begin.

semester classes is open up until the day they begin.

Vista's associate degree and job training programs accommodate those who have diverse work schedules and lifestyles. For example, Vista's Afternoon College is designed for those who go to work mornings or evenings. Evening College is tailored to people who work a more normal 9-to-5 schedule or who have family responsibilities. Morning programs cater to those with busy afternoon and evening agendas.

bilities. Morning programs cater to those with busy afternoon and evening agendas.

Vista also has added more general education classes for California state university students who also may not be able to get into lower division courses necessary for graduation. CSU students may enroll concurrently in Vista classes.

"Because of higher fees and tuition at both community and four-year colleges, many people who want to start a degree or train for an occupation think that they won't be able to afford it," says Vista dean Hector Cordova. "However, Vista makes it possible for people to work full-time and earn a college degree by scheduling programs and classes at times convenient to them."

"Vista's new programs also allow high school students to 'jumpstart' their college education. They're not charged for enrollment fees, so their parents can save hundreds of tuition dollars."

Transfer, associate degree, and certificate programs are in biotech-

dreds of tuition dollars."

Transfer, associate degree, and certificate programs are in biotechnology, business and business management, American Sign Language, computer information systems, English, fine and applied arts, international trade, legal and medical administrative assistant, liberal arts, office management, and travel industry.

dustry.

Financial aid, assessment and testing, day and evening counseling, tutoring, college prep, re-entry and veteran's assistance are available.

Vista is at 2020 Milvia St. between University and Addison,

Wista is at 2020 Milvia St. between University and Addison, Berkeley, only one block from BART and AC Transit lines. Call 841-8431 for details about classes and programs.

Subscribe call 339-4040



Complete Hardware & Garden!®